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ALAS, POOR YORICK

By Renwick C. Kennedy

(Mr. Kennedy's articles in the Spring and Fall Issues of the Quarterly "The Poets of Fish Creek" and "Alabama Black Belt," attracted such wide spread attention that the editors of the magazine requested further contributions from his pen. "Alas, Poor Yorick", appearing herewith is the result of that request. Mr. Kennedy is pastor of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church in Camden, Alabama, and as stated in the former issues referred to, is contributor to a number of national magazines. These particular articles have to do with "folk ways" and historians of the future will find them of great value.)

In little Southern towns a funeral is an upheaval. It is an occasion. If the deceased were an important citizen his demise causes as much excitement, and pleasure, as a political rally or a revival meeting. It brings the community together in genial public assembly. It stimulates gossip. It stirs up politics. It helps business. It breaks the monotony of village life. It is a public spectacle, vastly entertaining to the citizens. It is a kind of catharsis. And a good deal of whiskey is drunk.

Two generalizations about Southern small-town funerals may be safely made at the outset.

They are usually dull, confused, inartistic performances.

The people enjoy them very much.

This discussion is only concerned with the folk-practices of Southern white people in burying their dead. No doubt the customs in other sections of the nation are as bad, probably worse.

Birth, marriage and death may or may not be the most important events of a human life. A good argument could be made that the three are mere incidentals, and, save in the case of marriage, necessary details. The really important things of a life may have no direct connection with any one of the three.

Still, folk-ways are basically wise and it is significant that every society from the most primitive to the most effete has an established, smoothly-functioning machinery to handle its births, marriages and deaths. In other matters the individual must shift and devise for himself. In these three the state, the church, the law, the professions, the arts, the sciences, the superstitions and

witchcrafts of his community provide astounding rituals to see him through.

In little Southern towns it is as though a death pressed a button to bring into instant motion a complex, community-wide machine. Besides regional peculiarities, which will be noted, there are the usual facilities. There is an undertaker to sell the casket, embalm and dress the body, arrange the service and inter the dead. There is a cemetery association to sell or assign a lot. There are practised grave diggers, as philosophical and callous as those whom Hamlet interrupted. There is the church. Its ministers in any desired numbers are waiting and willing to function. There are friends and relatives and neighbors to mourn, and usually a few enemies to rejoice. There is a medical official to write a death certificate and make a report to the state's department of vital statistics. There are courts and lawyers to dispose of the deceased's estate, if any. There are newspapers to publish an account of the death and the funeral. There are florists to provide flowers. There are little printed booklets containing passages of Scripture and consoling mediations, usually in rhyme, to be handed out. Even though the deceased be a pauper and can have none of the refinements, he nonetheless gets buried in the earth in a coffin.

It is a bootless occupation to worry about one's funeral, for one will get buried. The human race buries its dead, even those whom it first kills. It buries them with elaborate ritual, with éclat and sadistic pleasure. It buries them with strange enjoyment and perverse satisfaction. Usually it buries them with atrocious manners and in enormously bad taste.

A funeral should be a subtle, unobtrusive work of art. It should be simple and dignified. It should afford comfort to the bereaved and perhaps edification to the spectators. Marking the end of a human life, which despite the cattle theory of European dictators is still probably the most important thing in the world, it should above all have dignity. Its tiniest detail should be carefully planned. Its total impact should bring some exaltation to the human spirit, some mood of quietness and peace, some awareness of the unseen and eternal forces, call them what you will. These effects should be found in some measure not only by those who hold the Christian doctrine of another life, but by

all who believe that man is a spirit who can aspire and suffer and sacrifice and love.

Some funerals do produce such thoughts and feelings in those who attend. Some funerals are works of art, created jointly by undertaker and minister.

Others are as good as a circus. When a funeral becomes a circus it gets out of its proper field and cannot be an artistic creation. It is then as ill-conceived as a dignified funeral staged for amusement in a circus side-show.

The death and burial of Jonathan Smith, 73, Presbyterian, property owner, bank director, leading citizen and former mayor of Yaupon, man of some wealth, occurred one Thursday afternoon in that deep-South small town.

By 6:00 P. M. old Jonathan was embalmed and neatly dressed in a black suit, white shirt and black tie, and was lying in state in the living room of the family home.

News of the death spread quickly over the town, and in an incredibly brief time the neighbors began to appear at the door of the Smith residence.

The funeral call is not merely an expression of sympathy, in the South, and probably not elsewhere in the nation. It is correct form. It is a social gesture, and the caller wants full credit for it. He likes at least to be seen by a member of the family, and prefers to speak to one of them. Probably nothing in the world can be done about the neighbors calling, and perhaps nothing should be done. But their tactics do turn the family home into a public place at a very difficult time. The trouble is not that some of the neighbors call, but that all of them call, in packs.

Until midnight they came in a continual stream that reached its peak around 8:00 o'clock. They were greeted at the door by a relative who acted as host, and were showed into the living room where there were chairs. At times there were as many as 25 people in the room.

Each newcomer strode self-consciously in, sidled up to the open casket, gazed thoughtfully for a minute or two at old Jonathan's contented countenance, and then took a chair. One might

remain as long as he wished and few were in a hurry to leave. Probably the average call lasted an hour, though there were some who became engrossed in the conversations going on and remained several hours. One takes time off to visit with his neighbors at the time of a death, in the home of the deceased. It is a rare and happy privilege for which ordinarily one does not have time.

And so the room buzzed with conversation, subdued words about the cotton crop, or the local baseball team, or whispered words about the latest community scandal, and now and then still more softly whispered words about the purple passages of old Jonathan's life, and his general rascality. Occasionally someone forgot himself and laughed aloud. Little groups of men and other little groups of women and a few mixed groups formed. Some of them wandered out into the hall, upon the porch, onto the lawn. Many good stories were told. Business deals were made. Choice items of gossip were exchanged. A bit of flirtation went on. Some whiskey was drunk.

Important visitors were not content with viewing the remains and exchanging gossip for an hour or so in the living room. They demanded to see the family. Until a late hour a stream of these people passed through the long hall to the back bed room where the family, appropriately tearful, lolled about in varying stages of sorrow upon beds and chairs.

To the uninitiated it might seem the height of rudeness that this worrisome procession of visitors should intrude upon the family's sorrow. But it was a time-honored custom. The family expected it, would have felt neglected and hurt without it, and no doubt enjoyed it.

Another Southern custom, this one entirely delightful, appeared at its best at Jonathan's death. Food began to arrive at the Smith home, good food and large quantities of it. There were cakes, some of them baked since Jonathan died, plates of sliced ham and fried chicken, dishes of various salads, desserts and sandwiches. The food came not from a delicatessen but from the generous homes of neighbors.

The idea back of the custom is quite simple and quite reasonable. There has been a death in the home. There are visitors, relatives and others, as well as the family, who must eat.

The household is upset. No one feels like cooking, not even the cook. Therefore kind-hearted neighbors send plates of food. Probably the practise is even more deeply rooted. It is no doubt a survival of the old world custom of funeral feasts.

Along with the food two quart bottles and a half dozen pints of whiskey also showed up. The donors sent them quietly to the back door where a Negro servant received them and placed them in the butler's pantry upon a table with glasses. Male guests and callers were invited back, through the night, for a drink. However the courtesy was used with discretion and was only offered to a few. Unfortunately this gracious funeral custom of the Old South has about become extinct.

During the night six volunteer friends of the family sat up with the corpse. They drank coffee and ate a great deal of the food that had been sent. They smoked and talked and consumed two quarts of whiskey. They had a very good time, and got pretty drunk.

The following morning the stream of callers resumed. Until the hour of the funeral at 2:00 P. M. the Smith home suffered an invasion of the general public. Many came who never under normal circumstances visited the Smiths. Again the important people demanded to see the family and were cheerfully admitted to the back-bedroom. During the morning much more food was received.

The family's minister was present at the death and remained all of Thursday afternoon. Before he left he discussed with the widow and the children their wishes about the funeral.

They wanted it to be held at the church, for Jonathan had been a devout Presbyterian. Too, he had lived in the community a long time and had many friends. More people could hear the service at the church than at the home. The widow wanted the Baptist minister to assist for she had formerly, fifty years ago, been a Baptist. The eldest son played golf with the Episcopalian rector and asked that he have a part in the service. That left only the Methodist minister, and the family felt that he might be offended if left out. After all, they had many friends in the Methodist Church. And so it was every minister in town was drawn into the service.

At 1:40 on Friday afternoon the funeral procession left the home for the church, the four ministers leading in one automobile, the pall bearers following, then the hearse, the family and finally the spectators.

There was some confusion at the church, not much that you could put your finger upon but just a general aimlessness due solely to unplanned procedure. The undertaker had left all details to the exigencies and inspiration of the moment, holding the theory that nature will take its course even in a funeral ritual. Consequently no detail was smoothly executed, but proceeded by nods and whispers and awkward pauses.

There were only four flagrant gaucheries. Solemn faced, self-important women, recruited from the waiting audience in the church, tripped up and down the church aisles carrying wreaths of flowers from the door to the pulpit rostrum, making a great commotion, and enjoying themselves immensely.

Seats had not been reserved for the pallbearers at the front.

The pulpit had been so densely banked with flowers by the eager women that some wreaths had to be removed before the ministers could enter.

There were only three chairs in the pulpit for the four ministers.

The undertaker and his assistant worked out each of these problems as it arose.

The mechanical details at last forced into place, the ministers proceeded with the service. Their effort was not by any excess of charitable judgment an unobtrusive work of art. Rather it was a hodgepodge of Scripture readings, prayers, songs and personal remarks. With four ministers participating unity of theme and mood became impossible. For the Presbyterian minister, who presided, the service had become a tricky juggling act, a matter of parcelling out the parts among the three assisting brethren, the imponderables with which he dealt being the prestige and feelings of each, the relationships of each of the family, and the relative importance of the congregations each represented. The same problem faced him with the committal rites at the grave. On his part at least there was very careful planning.

One might feel that the burial of old Jonathan was barbaric. Perhaps it was,—such a tremendous activity over the quite simple matter of interring a dead body. One might think the total rigamarole a harrowing ordeal for the family. But not so. Beyond the distress of their natural sorrow, they found nothing untoward about the funeral. They later spoke of the sweet and beautiful church service, referring to the unspeakably bad four minister medley of comfort and exhortation.

The burial of Jonathan Smith occurs every day in little towns over the South. In the larger towns and cities practises are somewhat better. There are fewer gaping, sympathizing, busy-body neighbors who, with the kindest of intentions, intrude. It is not necessary to invite an entire squad of ministers to participate. Personal remarks about the deceased are usually omitted. Yet, while the funeral etiquette of the cities is an improvement, city funerals are seldom subtle, unobtrusive works of art, and they are certainly much less enjoyable occasions. They are usually depersonalized, stream-lined rituals, designed for speed and cold-blooded efficiency. Their single purpose is simply to inter the dead body with as little bother and as quickly as possible.

Somewhere between the community-wide orgy and the frigid formality there is a proper and adequate funeral service.

The key men are, of course, the undertaker and the minister. Either of them may ruin a funeral. Both of them often joyously collaborate to make of the final rites an amusing farce. Undertakers who refuse to plan a service in detail, who leave the minister and the pall bearers and the family to their own simple discretions, who are merely truck drivers and hired hands to move the coffin about, are hopeless, and the world will be much better off when they become the victims of their own trade.

However it is the minister more often than the undertaker who turns a funeral into a joke. Sometimes it is because he knows no better. Often it is because he makes personal capital of burying the dead.

A funeral is a minister's Great Chance. It is an opportunity to give aid and sympathy and comfort to a distressed family, and to intrench himself in its affections. But it also is a chance at publicity for himself. So far as the family itself is concerned

the minister is on an easy spot. He could read the Bill of Rights or a passage from Nietzsche, and the family would probably thank him and say that his service was beautiful. Therefore, since the family is in a state of mind that renders it uncritical, the officious publicity-seeking minister addresses himself principally to the spectators. There are many among them who never hear him except at funerals. A funeral is the chance of a life-time for him and he makes the most of it. He spreads himself before the public in a manner that is high, wide and handsome. If his own taste and manners are deficient his funerals are *gaucherie* at its worst.

Let such a minister have charge of a funeral and he is happy. He enjoys it. He makes his supreme effort. Forgetting the deceased he fancies himself the leading man in the play. He pours out every drop of pathos, every vowel of rhetorical bombast, and every pontifical absurdity that he can in any way connect with the service. He gives himself away, revealing his own cheapness, but he never knows it. God may forgive such ministers upon the grounds that they know no better, or because a funeral intoxicates them. It seems unlikely, however, God being an artist, that He can ever forget their sheer, stupid crudity. And it is practically certain that God will never forgive them for the doggerel poetry they quote.

Yet many Southern people, including some who ought to know better, like such funerals, conducted by such ministers.

When such a man is not in charge of a funeral, the deceased being a member of some other church, he will often take steps to worm himself into the service as an assistant. It flatters him to be called upon by a family outside his own congregation. It is not difficult to ease himself into the service. It can often be accomplished merely by visiting the home and hanging around the family in a solicitous manner for an hour or so.

There are too many ministers of this type. Often they are good men, but a funeral with its opportunities is more than they can withstand. The temptation to make of the service a publicity and propaganda occasion gets them. The same temptation is there for all ministers. A funeral audience, more often than not composed of non-intellectuals and always in a bathetic mood, is putty in the hands of a gifted speaker who understands his crowd. Yet there are ministers of all ranks who refuse to make

personal capital of it, just as there are others of all ranks who attempt to cash in.

But the fault is not always with the minister or the undertaker. Frequently the family itself does the dirty work. The family often asks for personal remarks when the minister prefers to omit them. The family sometimes demands inappropriate hymns, naming them, when the minister wants no music at all. The family often comes up with fantastic requests for which the minister gets the blame. And it is almost always the family that asks for additional ministers to take part, occasionally as many as six.

One minister can make of a funeral a simple, dignified, creative work of religious art, if he knows how. Two can do it, though it is more difficult; and impossible if one of them inclines to hog the service. When there are more than two it is simply a matter of finding enough parts to go around. The service is invariably aimless and messy.

In the little Southern towns it usually requires all resident ministers to bury a prominent citizen. It also frequently requires all of them to bury a liquor-head who never attended the church of any of them. The middle class usually manages to get by with one or two ministers and consequently has more decent funerals. But too many Southern people have a tendency to want the whole works in their funerals, all the ministers available, all the customs, every ancient tradition that is still respectable, plenty of pall bearers both active and honorary, and a vast quantity of sheer pompous solemnity. They don't like funerals to be too brief. They want the "dust to dust, ashes to ashes, earth to earth" committal, though neither knowing nor caring whether it be the Episcopal ritual. They want hymns and flowers. They like personal remarks, tender and touching. They prefer church services. They want it all, spread on thick, and they care not if it also be spread with a heavy hand. They want the works. They usually get the works.

Even so, some of the old burial customs of the South have about passed away.

There are a few communities where it is still correct to send around to every home a printed, black-bordered announcement,

threaded with black ribbon. You come to the door and read it. The servant then carries it on to the next house. A variation is to place the announcement, which gives information of the death and the hour of the funeral, in stores and other public places.

Now and then the primitive and inexcusable custom of opening the casket during the church service is still practised. The congregation is invited to file by and view the remains. The family comes last. Mothers bring their children with them and hold them up to peer into the face of the dead. Terrible scenes occur where the casket is opened. Fortunately this feature of burial is nearly extinct.

Another tradition that has about disappeared is the habit of grave-side remarks. Neighbors and friends, in fact all who so desired were invited to step up and speak. Now and then an enemy of the deceased availed himself of the privilege, but more often county politicians seized the occasion to win the family's vote. There are communities where the practise still occurs, usually in the case of a prominent death.

It is unimportant whether the service is held at the home, the church, the funeral home or the grave-side. The important requirements, if you want a decent funeral in the South, or for that matter anywhere, are to employ an undertaker who knows how to plan and direct it, and to secure the service of one minister who is honorable enough not to run away with the occasion for his own purposes. It also is well to ask him to omit personal remarks, "Crossing The Bar", which has been too much overworked, and all rhyming poems.

If you are a Catholic or an Episcopalian you need have no worry. Your service will be read from a book or recited from memory. The ritual in the one case will be in Latin, and in the other though in English will be in good taste and dignified language. If you belong to the rank and file of Protestantism in the Southern states the type of funeral you will have is upon the lap of the gods.

But whether it be simple and dignified, or whether it be a three ring circus, your neighbors and friends will enjoy it. Death is a complete and perfect and decisive thing. Nothing is more complete and perfect and decisive. Too, it is spectacular how-

ever quietly it comes. It jolts the community, breaking the monotony of its life. It effects a change upon the local scene. It gets you out of the way, opening up your job, or your estate for someone else. It complicates the lives of those you leave behind you. It solves problems, and creates other. Also, there is in everyone at least a bit of sadism.

Therefore your funeral will be enjoyed by all but the few who loved you. The pleasure will not be malicious nor exultant. It will be merely and excusably human.

THE CAJANS AT HOME

By Laura Frances Murphy

Occupying the pine and oak woods of Mobile County in southern Alabama are a group of people of mixed racial blood known in that section as Indian Cajans. No scientific racial studies have been made, and but little authentic history of the group is available.

It is evident that the Alabama Cajans are a mixture of a number of races and nationalities: English, American Indian, German, French, Italian, Mexican, Negro, and Russian. The name "Cajan" is probably a misnomer as the group is connected only remotely with the Acadians of historical fame; however, it has been brought over probably from Louisiana and Mississippi and is now in general use in south Alabama. In the absence of a more accurate term "Cajan" is used in this account to designate the people of mixed blood in Mobile County who are classed as neither white, red, nor black, but constitute a mongrel race. These people have no typical physical characteristics. In one family there may be the true blonde with all the physical characteristics of the white race, and also the dark brunette who shows close kinship to the Mexican or the Indian. Few of the Cajans in Mobile County show decided relationship to the black race, and the Cajans themselves resent the connecting of their ancestry with the Negro in any way.

A conservative estimate of the Cajan population of the county would number the group between eighteen hundred and two thousand, divided between settlements and neighborhoods as follows:

Shady Grove Settlement, west of Calvert.....	500
Byrd Settlement, between Mount Vernon and Citronelle	700
Tom Lars Byrd Neighborhood	300
Tassie Byrd Neighborhood	200
Book Byrd Neighborhood	200
Scattered groups at Movico, Chastang, Creola, Mobile	600 to 800

The Census Bureau of the Federal Government has never made a report of the Cajans as a racial group and the above figures have been gathered by personal research.

The homes of the woods are typical of the pioneer days of the old South.¹ The living quarters commonly designated as "the house" are usually separate from the kitchen where there are a fireplace and a stove. In the larger homes the kitchen may be partitioned from the dining room, but more often cooking and eating are done in the same room. A few couples have recognized the desirability and convenience of building the kitchen connected with the rest of the house. Building materials are logs or undressed lumber. A few homes have been built or remodeled with finished planks. Nails are saved carefully for use at such times as they may be needed after a house is built, and scrap lumber is never thrown away. Even the wealthy families often live in houses built by ancestors several generations ago. A paling fence with wooden gates is always considered the most attractive enclosure that could be used for the yard. "Brush brooms" made from gallberry bushes and "pine tops" taken from pine trees are used to clean the yards. Almost every home has at least a few flowers, and several women are known for raising large, colorful beds of hardy annuals; these are usually in the middle of a clean swept, hard yard, devoid of grass.

There are no separate living rooms in the modern sense, for all the rooms are living rooms. The "best room" in a house of the middle class usually has one or more beds, several chairs with "tidies" on the backs, and a small table. There may be a talking machine or an organ. There are often large crayon portraits of

1. Hamilton, Peter J., *Colonial Mobile*, Second Edition, 1910, p. 390.

members of the family, usually deceased, enlarged from old photographs or deguerotypes by a travelling photographer. The beds and the floors are immaculately clean. The windows may have curtains but are not likely to have shades.

There are no bathrooms. Tin wash tubs and tin or granite wash pans are in general use. Upon arising a person is expected to "wash", that is, to bathe face and hands in cool water that has just been brought from spring, pump, or well for that purpose. Before and after each meal the members of the family and their guests go to the gallery where they wash their hands. Allover baths are taken after dark to insure privacy.

One family in Byrd Settlement has electric lights from a Delco plant, and several families use good kerosene lamps; however, such methods of lighting are not in general use. "Fat pine" sticks or "lighters" furnish torch light for cooking and eating at night and for most social gatherings in the home. Knives and forks are not used to a great extent. Spoons, with two or three knives, are usually found in a home of moderate means; and no family has a complete set of silver. Several families own forty-eight piece sets of dishes which they reserve for "company use".

Cajans have several food combinations that Hamilton believes to be of Indian-French-English origin. "Indian dishes like succotash and gumbo filé" are common.¹ Filé is a powdered form of sassafras. The most widely used combinations are: rice and black-eye peas; ripe tomatoes, Irish potatoes, and lima beans; chicken and rice; green black-eye peas and okra; green tomatoes and okra. Gopher (land turtle) meat is a delicacy in some places, as are green turtle, squirrel, and wild turkey. Goat and mutton are two of the most popular meats among the groups financially able to afford them. The use of goat for barbeque reminds a southern traveller of the barbequed and dried "cabrito" (goat meat) in the diet of the Mexican in the Gulf Coast region of south Texas.

Vegetables commonly grown in the gardens of the old South are raised here. A few fruits: peaches, pears, pomegranates, and persimmons are raised. Dewberries and blackberries grow wild.

1. Hamilton, *op. cit.*, p. 184.

Mayhaws, scuppernongs, and muscadines likewise grow wild, and scuppernongs are often cultivated in a home garden. Very little is known about modern methods in agriculture or in preserving foods; hence, gardens rarely reach the point of best possible production, and almost no food is canned. There is but little production and consumption of milk and other dairy products. Lard and lard substitutes are given preference over butter for seasoning or table use. Sea foods, cabbage, eggs, and citrus fruits are additional delicacies to the regular meal of salt pork, hot bread, molasses, and coffee. A guest's breakfast might consist of baked sweet potatoes, boiled cabbage, molasses, meat, biscuit, and coffee rolls.

Ice cream is a rare treat. It is inconvenient for anyone to get ice, and ice cream is made only on holidays and other special occasions. There is one ice cream freezer in the Shady Grove Settlement and there are four or five in the Byrd Settlement. On one occasion the public school teacher arrived at a home just as the family were giving up as a failure an attempt to freeze a gallon of ice cream. They had decided, after turning the handle for an hour, with no visible results, that the mixture was not freezing because of an insufficient quantity of sugar. The teacher added a cup of salt to the ice that was in the freezer, and the cream began to freeze almost immediately. The family were delighted over this remarkable culinary skill thus displayed by their teacher.

Dripped coffee is the universal drink of the woods. Green coffee is purchased at a store, then it is parched and ground at home only as it is used to insure strength. No home is without its fireplace and drip pot for coffee. A few younger couples make coffee on a stove, but the average native prefers setting the pot in a bed of coals in the fireplace. Dripped coffee is very strong and is served without cream and sugar. It is not served during a meal but always before the meal, and frequently, after.

Upon awaking in the morning, a Cajan expects his coffee to be served immediately. Whenever a person comes to a home, some member of the family is bound by social custom to offer him a cup of coffee. If the drink is not offered him, it is not discourteous for him to ask for it. Regardless of the time of day or of the number of times coffee has already been served, it is not hospitable to permit an adult visitor to leave without first offering him hot coffee.

Cajans have great respect for old age. Every child is taught to be courteous to older people and when a guest enters his home, his responsibility is keenly felt. He takes around a chair for the guest to use as the latter goes back and forth from the house to the kitchen. If the guest is an old man or an old woman the child used "Uncle" or "Aunt" as terms of respect, and he feels honored to have his visitor ask him to draw a bucket of cool water from the old board well or to bring in some lighter for a better fire.

A host or a member of his family who does not insist on a guest's staying for a meal is considered ill-bred. Likewise, anyone at the home at bedtime is always asked to spend the night. No doubt this custom prevails because of the distance that often separates a man from his home at nightfall, when he is travelling on horse or on foot. Beds can always be made down on the floors to accommodate the extra persons, and if the guests be old in years, the children promptly give up their bed without a murmur of protest.

Arriving at a home out in the woods, a visitor stops at the gate nearest the front door of the dwelling house and calls, "Hello!". An older member of the family comes to the door or out on the porch and answers, "Hello". The following conversation may then take place on the gallery or in the house:

Visitor—"Howdy, How're you?"

Host—"Not much, How're you?"

Visitor—"Not much."

Host—"How're your folks?"

Visitor—"They're pretty good, I believe. Are you all well?"

Host—"Yes, I believe so."

When the visitor takes leave, he says, "Well, you'd better come go home with me."

Host—"No, I don't reckon I can hardly today. You'd as well stay longer."

Visitor—"No, I don't reckon I can. My folks will be looking for me. Let Johnnie (one of the host's children) go home with me."

Host—"No, I don't reckon he can go—not today. I'll let him come sometime. You never have brought Willie over to stay with us none yet."

Visitor—"Well, I will bring Willie. Do let Johnnie go."

Host—"Well, I guess he can go if he wants to. When are you coming back?"

Visitor—"We'll try to get around about Sunday and bring your boy back. Better come go, too."

Host—"No, I don't reckon I can. I'll be looking for you Sunday."

Visitor—"All right; if the Lord's willing and nothing don't happen. Good-day."

Host (and family)—"Good-bye!"

The first time two white women came to Byrd Settlement to teach an opportunity school for adults, they were entertained in the home of the settlement leader. There the first night of their arrival, they were made welcome in the crowded, "best" room of the home by the host, the hostess, eight young men, seven young women, and three children. Some sat on chairs that were too few for the number desiring seats, others on the bed that would later be occupied by the teachers. Several young men stood in the doorways which were really the only comfortable spots, since the pine lighter fire which was serving for lighting purposes on that June night, was burning exceptionally well. The teachers were given the only rocking chairs and were seated directly in front of the fire in order for everyone to get a good view of the guests. Each young man and each girl, then the father and the mother, took his turn at displaying his skill at the organ. They all played by ear and the entire repertoire numbered three or four hymns. Each who could write then autographed a sheet of paper; great interest was shown in the teachers' handwriting.

At eleven o'clock the wooden water bucket with the family dipper was passed around as one of the necessary preparations for retiring. Those who had been dipping snuff or chewing tobacco washed out their mouths at this time and everybody took a drink of cool water. A bucket of fresh water was put in a central location so that it would be available if needed in the night. The

guests were then left to retire in the room in which they had been entertained; instructions were given to keep all doors closed in order to prevent disturbance by the boys' hunting dog. As there were only two small windows in the room and the fire and the crowd had made the room very stuffy, instructions were disobeyed and a door was left partly open. The host left several matches to be used as needed. Each one was utilized before the night was over, in putting out the cat, chasing a rat out of the guests' hat box, examining the size of chinchies, and finally putting out the dog that came in as expected. At daybreak the teachers were greeted by the three small children of the household, resplendent in their Sunday clothes and greased hair, gazing into the two strange faces over the foot of the bed. Coffee was soon served and the children were sent out while the guests dressed to go to a typical Cajan breakfast.

A Cajan meal is served very informally and anyone in the home is welcomed at the family board. All food is placed on the table and the older members of the family and the guests are supposed to eat first. The host or the hostess invites everybody to "sit up", which means that everyone who is sitting on a chair must bring his chair to the table. Grace is said by a member of the family, usually a man, and everyone is urged to "help himself". If there are not enough chairs and benches, the older boys may squat beside the table while they eat. Different members of the group will "borrow" the one or two knives that are being used by the guest or the host.

It is not considered polite to take bread with the fingers, and a fork is used to convey a piece from the service plate to the individual's plate. One spoon may be used in three or four different dishes: meat, beans, okra, rice.

Young men and boys are often embarrassed to eat in a strange home. A young man who is courting on Sunday may not eat anything from the time he leaves home Sunday morning until he returns Monday morning. The writer has heard numerous adolescent boys declare that they would go without food all day rather than eat before women of another settlement. It sometimes takes school boys several months to become accustomed to eating before the teacher.

Such boys are urged especially to eat, and if they will not do so, the older girls usually save some food to serve them with the boys of the household after the main meal. Everyone at the table is exhorted to "make out your dinner"—or breakfast or supper. A guest is expected to "try" everything; and the cooks feel that something is wrong with their cooking if a guest does not eat heartily. It is customary to serve no beverage during a meal, although in a few homes the girls give water or milk to a teacher or a minister, since they have learned in school that white people drink during the course of the meal. As soon as everyone leaves the table, the water bucket is brought in or the family go to it on the gallery for fresh water. The guest is offered water to drink and water in which to wash his hands.

Health conditions in the woods are similar to those found in many of the ill sections of the South today. Ignorance and superstition cause people to hold to old practices of self-medication which are far more detrimental than beneficial to health. There is a serious lack of health education and the number of ailments caused by nutritional deficiencies is steadily on the increase. Almost no attention is given persons with defective eyes and ears; nor do the teeth receive any special care unless an extraction is necessary as the last resort in severe pain.

Venereal disease is alarmingly on the increase. Several native men are consulted for treatment, rather than a licensed physician, and herb mixtures are prescribed and administered generously. Although this situation is known by several practicing physicians in nearby villages, they do not have the illegal practice stopped. Consequently, scores of women and children are now suffering some effects of disease, yet at present they are helpless in securing medical treatment. Such diseases are not spoken of in hushed tones, as is often the case in modern communities, and it is not difficult to find a victim in a large percentage of homes.

The social status of Cajan women and the superstition by which many of their actions are guided, do not make for physically healthy womanhood. Married women are frequently victims of venereal disease. Bright's Disease claims young mothers who know nothing of the importance of diet. A visitor in any Cajan settlement must be impressed by the large number of orphans who are being reared by various relatives. Babies who must be thus

cared for are fed by any one of a number of preparations. It is a common sight to see a Cajan woman feeding a baby full strength sweetened condensed milk with a spoon.

Most Cajans are undernourished. Hookworm, pellagra, malaria, and colds are chronic complaints. The men, perhaps because of their active life in the woods, seem to have more resistance to colds than do the women; however, diseases of the heart and malaria are common even with them. There has never been an epidemic of any disease in malignant form to sweep the woods. The people attribute this to the fact that they live great distances apart, and each family usually has a distinct water supply.

The majority of people never know the advice or the care of a licensed physician. The expense involved in bringing a physician eight or ten miles into the woods is too much for the average family. Persons critically ill with pneumonia or acute appendicitis are sometimes carried in an open car thirty or forty miles to a doctor. In the history of this section there has been one physician who knew practically all of the people and who knew the roads in the woods as well as the natives. This physician was for many years the outstanding helper for Mobile County Cajans in rural medical work. He did much to bring about the improved care that licensed native midwives now give patients. However, some of the crude methods used by these midwives in obstetrical work are still to be deplored, such as putting the patient on the floor before the delivery of her child, building a fire in the patient's room even in hot summer weather, etc. It is rare for a woman to have an attending physician in childbirth.

The Public Health Service has never employed a full-time worker for Cajans, and the general staff have always felt it a loss of valuable time to hunt Cajan families in the woods when there were many people waiting to be served in the city of Mobile. Consequently, the work of the public health nurses among Cajans was until recently more of emergency relief than the education in health so much needed.

Until 1932 the public health service employed at least three field workers, one of whom was interested in maternity work; one was interested in tuberculosis cases; and one in general case work. No clinics for tuberculosis were ever held for Cajans, and

the majority know nothing of going to Mobile for treatment or examination. The nurse in charge of pre-natal work has always shown more interest than any other nurse in the physical welfare of Cajans, and since the establishment of a program of social work at the Methodist Community House she has been giving valuable assistance in cases to whom she is directed through the Community House. Women feel honored that this nurse shows interest in their welfare, and a young woman may feel slighted if the nurse calls on a neighbor first. Real educational work is being accomplished by the maternity nurse in replacing "old wives' tales" with progressive methods. Strict cleanliness of midwives is required; diet lists and feeding schedules are given and results checked; and all dangerous delivery cases are advised to go to the city hospital in Mobile.

The public school nurses visit the schools occasionally and vaccinate for smallpox. No physical examinations have ever been given the school children. About sixty children and their parents have been given inoculations against typhoid fever and diphtheria. When the nurses first began to visit the settlements about eight years ago the children were often so frightened that they ran into the woods and had to be hunted. One school nurse was surprised to see several of the youngsters whom she was to vaccinate jump out of a window and disappear just before it came their time in line. Since then, the blue uniforms of the nurses have ceased to frighten Cajans in most neighborhoods, and the children are glad to welcome a nurse to the school. Fortunately, Cajan parents have never shown any opposition to vaccination of their children.

The Cajans of Mobile and adjoining counties speak English with an accent suggestive of French and German influence. Expressions used and the archaic meanings often given modern words point to the possibility that the speech of this section is the speech of the old South. The average person's vocabulary is very limited, and although he does speak English, it is difficult for him to engage in conversation with outsiders.

It is not uncommon to find the use of a peculiar adjective formed from verbs, as: "the workingest people". Ancient syllabic plurals are in general use among the people of Shady Grove Settlement, as, "nestes" for nests, "ghosties" for ghosts, "posties" for posts. An abundance of pleonasm is always found: "I done

done it", "in this day and time". Corrupt forms of the verb are employed generally among the older people in all settlements and among the children of Shady Grove Settlement: "gwine" for going, "seed" for saw, "dooz" for does. The strong preterit with a dialectical change of the vowel is found in "brung", "drap", "holp", "whup". The weak preterit supplants the proper one: "knowed", "riz". As with the southern highlander, these are not mere blunders of individual illiterates, but usages common throughout (the section) and hence real dialect.¹

Common English words are often given unusual meanings: "bright" for white, "smart" for industrious, "pine straws" for pine needles, "proud" for glad, "sail" for sailboat, "ashamed" for embarrassed, "a sight" for much, "carry" for accompany, "chunk" for throw, "wash" for bathe, "solid" for certainly, "love" for like, "bread" for flour, "heaps" for much. Some of these terms and expressions are used also by the southern mountaineers and even by the old settlers of the lowlands of the South.

To the Cajan, peanuts are "penders"; a woodpecker, a "peckerwood"; a chicken hen is a "widdie", and all little chicks "little widdies". So general is the use of these terms that the writer has known numbers of school children to write "hen" and to pronounce the word "widdie". The old verb "tote" is in use in all settlements. An envelopoe is "backed" instead of addressed. Common descriptive terms are "womanish" or "manish"; feisty. A boy is "talking to" a young woman and "courting" or "sparking" in general.

Words and expressions are often intensified, as "biscuit-bread, man-person, women-folks, widow woman, widow man, church-house. "One more time" means an unusually enjoyable experience. Frequently employed assertions include: "I call it", "I swear to God", "I declare before gracious alive", "I'm really going", "If its not so, you can plow me"; "That's so, and I know it". Quaint idioms are found in every group: "I 'low to go", "for why?", "she's aimin' to", "I've laid off", "he done me dirt", "he struck a trot for home", "'taint powerful long", "I don't reckon", "nary a one", "not nary a soul", "Ink pen", or "Ink pencil" means a fountain pen.

1. Campbell, John C., *The Southern Highlander and His Home*, 1921, p. 359.

A "tooth brush" is a small twig from an oak or a gall berry bush. One end is split so that it makes a brush. Some words are often used in the plural, as, "cabbages", "menses", "folkses", "baking powders", "face powders".

"Evening" begins at noon. "Afternoon" is not in common use. "Today 'twas a week ago" or "Thursday 'twill be a year ago" are measures of time. "Soon" means early—I'm going to get up soon in the morning.

French and Creole words have in some instances found their way into general use. The old "galerie" is now gallery and is used altogether instead of porch. "Bayou" and "joque" are familiar words—"Paul Bayou", "Chick as awjoque". "Filé" is used instead of sassafras.

WILLIAM PARISH CHILTON

(Sketches of the Chief Justices of the Alabama Supreme Court by Lucien D. Gardner, the present Chief Justice, will appear regularly in the Quarterly, the series having been initiated by the late Chief Justice, John C. Anderson, throughout Volume I.)

William P. Chilton was born August 10, 1810 near Elizabethtown in Adair County, Kentucky. He was the son of a Baptist Minister, Rev. Thomas John Chilton and Margaret Bledsoe Chilton.

Of the early life and education of William P. Chilton little is known but we may assume that he was truly a student, for at the age of seventeen he was teaching school. When he was eighteen he moved to Athens, Tennessee and there began the study of law under Judge J. Meigs of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. A year later he was admitted to the Bar of Tennessee. He married Miss Mary Catherine Morgan and without money and without influence or friends, in 1834, he emigrated to Alabama. Alabama, his adopted state, became his home, and as someone has said: "once in Alabama, he fully identified himself with all of her interests, fought her battles as his own and sleeps in her bosom."

When he first came to Alabama he settled in Mardisville, at that time the location of the United States Land Office, but shortly thereafter moved to Talladega where he practiced law until 1846. At that time, among a frontier population, in a nascent condition, strong will, wise intellect, and steady principles were required for leadership. Chilton had these needed qualifications. He then moved to Tuskegee and practiced his profession there until 1849.

William P. Chilton began his public career in 1839 as a member of the Alabama House of Representatives. He was active in the Presidential canvass of 1840 and 1844, and supported General Harrison and Mr. Clay. In 1843 he ran for congress as the Whig candidate but was defeated by General Felix McConnell, a Democrat. In 1847 he ran for and was elected Associate Justice of the Supreme Court to succeed Justice Ormond. He served in this capacity until December 6, 1852, when upon the resignation of Chief Justice Dargan, he succeeded to the office of Chief Justice and remained in this office until January 2, 1856.

When reading the opinions of Chief Justice Chilton much of the character of the man appears. His writings speak his ability—his decisions reflect his passion for justice. Probably a truer test of his character and ability is recorded in the words of Hon. John W. Sanford in speaking to resolutions offered before the Supreme Court at the time of Judge Chilton's death.

"In that office he increased his reputation and enlarged the circle of his friends. He believed with Lord Bacon that judges should not be 'hard headed' but 'strong hearted' and 'ought to be more learned than witty, more reverend than plausible, more advised than confident. Above all things, integrity is their portion and proper virtue'. Hence, during the eight years he was Justice and Chief Justice of this Court, he was laborious, painstaking and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. His opinions were carefully prepared, are well sustained by precedent, and are clearly expressed. He was patient in hearing arguments, that he might well be advised."

Judge Chilton's attitude upon the bench indicated his judicial temperament, ever holding his mind in even balance until all sides were heard and carefully considered. He was broad minded and fair, displaying utmost respect for the opposing opinions of his associates on the Court. All of these qualities added to his stature as a true jurist.

In 1859 he was elected Senator from Macon County, and took a leading part in the measures of that period. The political events of that period—state and national—were of the most exciting character. Judge Chilton was recognized as an able debater and his acknowledged abilities and ripe experience made him a principal figure in any deliberative body of which he was a member. In 1861 Judge Chilton was a member of the Confederate Provisional Congress, and was re-elected in 1863. He was connected officially with the Confederate Government from its inception at Montgomery in 1861 until the surrender of its army in 1865. While opposed to secession as being unwise, as soon as it was a fact, he went into the Confederacy with all his soul, took part in the inauguration of Jefferson Davis, escorting Mr. Davis to the capitol on that occasion, and stood by the Confederacy to the bitter end. After the war, he devoted himself entirely to his profession. He lived in Montgomery during the latter years of his life.

Judge Chilton was married twice. First to Mary Catherine Morgan and later to her sister Elvira Frances Morgan. Judge

Chilton was survived by ten of his twelve children, and some of his descendants are now residents of Montgomery. He was a leader in the Baptist Church and at the time of his death was serving as Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Alabama. Four years after his death the County of Chilton was named in his honor.

It is only just to say, that Judge Chilton throughout a long career in his profession and politics always distinguished himself for honor and kindness. Many young men were aided and brought forward by him to public usefulness, whose merit might otherwise have been overlooked.

The people of Alabama still enjoy the legacy of this noble character.

JOURNAL OF JAMES A. TAIT FOR THE YEAR 1813.*

(Diary entries from the 25th of August 1813 to the 25th of March 1815).

Edited by Peter A. Brannon

1771 ?
James A. Tait was born at Cokesbury College, Maryland, September 8, 1871. He died on his plantation at Dry Forks, Wilcox County, Alabama, February 10, 1855. Mr. Tait came to the Alabama territory about two years after his service against the Indians. Judge Charles Tait, his father, one time Senator from Georgia and recently appointed Federal Judge in the new District, followed his son to the Lower Alabama country. Judge Tait as well as Doctor William W. Bibb, the Junior Senator from Georgia, both failed of reelection when the question of payment for representation in Congress came up. Both the former Georgians received Federal appointments. Doctor Bibb was the first and only Territorial Governor of Alabama.

The manuscript collections of the Alabama Department of Archives and History contain a considerable correspondence of Judge Tait as well as the plantation records of James Tait. There is also in the Department quite a few relics of the family. Judge Tait was a patron of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences. The Tait family of Wilcox County were extensive planters holding large bodies of land in the Alabama River Valley. There are many descendants living in that country today.

The Journal exactly as set-out by James Tait, a Private soldier follows:

* The original Journal of James Tait is a handmade, paper covered, little volume ruled so that the date of each changing incident appears to the right. Besides an interesting account of his experiences he has injected Indian words, some short sentences and common expressions. The volume was presented to the Alabama Department of Archives and History by Mrs. R. Spencer, September 28, 1901.

Journal

By Jas. A. Tait

for the year 1813.

Capt. Smith's company, of which I am one, met on Wednesday at Elbert C. House, and started on a military expedition against the Creek Indians.

Left home on horseback the 27th overtook our company one mile from Greensborough, walked 9 miles first day after leaving our horses 16 miles from Lexington. I walked 20 miles the second day. The farthest I ever walked in one day on a journey, and slept at Eatonton, a few miles ahead of the com. On Monday night encamped 15 miles from Eatonton in a most indifferent tent, without any detriment tho.

Thursday night slept in Clinton, in the Church, on a very narrow bench without the ill luck of tumbling off once.

Arrived at the Oakmulgee camp ground about 3 o'clock on Wednesday after the company had marched for 7 days through very rainy weather; being very warm also. As soon as we reached the place of Westington we struck up a miserable shelter, which was put to a severe test, by a hard rain descending upon it the very instant of its erection. It could not defend us. We got a disagreeable, tho not a perfect wetting. We made gradual improvements. This little army has been badly provided with victuals since it encamped. Much and just complaint has arisen; I hope we shall be taken more care of in this way for the future. There has been considerable bustle about an election for a Col. commandant of this regiment. If there should be an election, it would cause great delay, and trouble; it is said we should return to our counties to vote. This would never do. How the affairs will terminate I do not know. I write this on the 3rd.

Capt. Cunningham with his company of 111 men, and 50 horse, moved off to Hawkins' on the Flint River,¹ on Monday 6th.

Harris's regiment drew their arms, at the fort on Tuesday the 7th.

General Floyd & suit paid his first respects to our regiment on Thursday the 9th. He was dressed in a blue frock coat, with very splendid epaulets and rich gold lace. He is a man, of statue, about the middle size, of a dark complexion and formed for strength, appearing to possess the capacity, so necessary for a commander, of enduring much fatigue. He was received by the regiment, in the usual stile, with their arms presented, drums beating and fifes playing; being conducted in by the adjutant. He walked between the two battalions being about 40 paces apart, with his head inclined to the left, and looking altogether to the right battalion. Adjutant Gen. Newman is with us occasionally. I expect that he is the most able, or skillful, commander in the southern country; very nimble in the field, possessing great presence of mind, and delivering his orders with great precision, accuracy, and distinctness. Jenkins and Harris's regiments are said to be composed, the former of about 17 hundred men, the latter of about 9 hundred, infantry besides about 5 hundred of cavalry. When we shall march against the Indians is not known, probably in 5 or 6 weeks. Matters are not yet well organized. Officers in the contracting or victualing department must give better proofs of their activity and management, or perhaps we should not in 3 months, move to the object of the expedition. Orders were issued this morning prohibiting of prophane swearing &c. under penalty of the guard houses; alias imprisonment.

10th Sept. 1813

J. A. Tait.

¹*Hawkins' on the Flint River.*

This refers to Colonel Benjamin Hawkins' residence in the present Crawford County, Georgia on Flint River, this being the site of the United States Indian Agency among the Creeks. Colonel Hawkins, a native of North Carolina, attended Princeton, was a staff officer in the American Revolution, was a senator from North Carolina, and was the United States Agent among the Creeks from 1798 to 1816 having had an appointment under George Washington as a Commissioner to the Indians prior to that time. The site was on the Federal Road which went that way from Milledgeville to Fort Hawkins, the present Macon, Georgia, thence by Fort Mitchell and into the Indian country.

Two men from Porters' and four from Clevelands' deserted yesterday morning 9th. The first unhappy instances of the kind.

Stood as one of the picket guard second times in the night from 5 to 7 o'clock, from 11 to 1, from 5 to 7 in the morning of the 13th being number 19, second relief. The guards were distributed into 3 reliefs, of 20 men, each standing 3 hours in 29. Our two countersigns were, ——— and hard times. The cotton very appropos.

Moved to the lower encampment, situated on the right bank of boggy branch in the piny woods. An express reached camp from the Agency, bringing news that the Garrison of Fort Mims had been cut off by the Indians. Melancholy news. 17th.

The Artillery company returned to Milledgeville. 17th. The *poah* (corn) fields upon the Oakmulge, are said to have produced 75 bushels per acre. 15 barrels. Col. Harris proposed to make me his clerk: I declined for the reasons, first it was entirely unexpected, 2nd I had reconciled it to my mind to serve my country as a dutiful citizen in arms, estimating it honorable to fight for one's country, *pro patria puguine aut nois*; 3rd I had formed attachments to my mess; and not caring for any favor that Col. Harris could bestow.

A private in Capt. Heath's company died last night. The first sad instance of the kind, which has occurred in this encampment.

The first frost at Camp Hope on the 12th.

Another death of one Paxon the 18th.

Took a joyfull farewell of the sweet waters of boggy branch on the 29th at about one o'clock.

Arrived at the Agency on the evening of the 1st after a tire-some day's march through the woods on the right flank commanded by Major Jones. Waded Flint river next morning like a soldier and encamped on the plain of Fort Lawrence. The next 3rd day marched into the Fort as garrison and took the place of Capt. Merriwether. Five good companies, at least are requisite to defend the fort in case of attack by a formidable force. The fort is 180 feet square, 2 block houses, 2 hospitals, 2 store houses for provisions, etc.

The army marched from Ft. Lawrence on 18th for Coweta, leaving a garrison composed of the companies of Caps. Smith & Ware and about 250 sick men. The diseases with which the army has been afflicted have their origin in bad colds, thence in violent headaches, fevers, debility and death. The course of F. Lawrence from Ft. Hawkins is South 70 degrees west, distance 30 miles. From F. Lawrence to Chitta Hooche 58 miles, from thence to the Ottise town about the same distance the last town about 25 miles above the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa and situated on the latter river. The town called Oakfuskee about 20 miles above Ottesee on the same river. The Coweta and Cusseta towns are on the banks of the Chitta Hooche² 7 miles apart, the former above.

Some particulars of the battle on the Tallipoosa,³ fought on

²Chitta Hoochee is the "Chattahoochee" River.

Ottissa is the Indian town generally designated "Ottassee", a location half a mile southwest from the mouth of Calebee Creek in the present Macon County, Alabama.

Oakfuskee is the site of the old British port, Fort Okfuski, opposite the influx of Sandy Creek (from the West) into the Tallapoosa River. The distance is considerably more than twenty miles above Ottassee. The location is in Tallapoosa County about twelve miles west of Dadeville.

The Coweta and Cusseta towns are in Russell County, Alabama and Stewart County, Georgia respectively. Coweta was two miles northeast of Fort Mitchell. Cusseta was in the present Fort Benning military reservation just south of Upatoy Creek. This was the largest town in the Lower Nation in population. The Federal Road crossed here. A trail branched up to Coweta town which was not on the main Federal Road as cut in 1811.

³The "Battle on the Tallapoosa" is a reference to the battle of Ottassee, which took place south of the mouth of Calebee Creek and a little northwest of Shorter Station on the Western of Alabama Railway. Aboriginal evidences would indicate that this is a very old settlement site. A considerable mound is still there. William Bartram, the celebrated American naturalist, was at this place during Christmas week of 1777, and notes in his journal the only totem pole ever referred to in the southern States. The town house here was one hundred feet in diameter according to his records, and archaeological investigations several years ago showed that the posts of this building are still in place underground. Colonel Benjamin Hawkins, United States Agent for Indian Affairs South of the Ohio, spent Christmas day, 1796 in the home of James Bailey at this place. Dixon Bailey and his brother Richard, sons of this man, were educated in Philadelphia. One of them was under the tutelage of the Quakers and the other one sponsored by the United States government. Elizabeth, who became Mrs. Fisher, learned to read and write in one of the families in the Tensas Country on the lower Alabama.

the 29th Nov. under the command of Gen. Floyd on our part. After three days march, the army, (18 hundred strong, including 500 Indians, besides 8 hundred infantry, 200 cavalry, 200 riflemen and an Artillery company of 100 men); encamped on the right of the 28th within 8 miles of the Ottesee town the place of battle. The next morning it marched so soon as to exhibit itself to the surprised and astonished Indians, about half way between day break and sunrise; at this period the contest commenced. Then, for the first time, we heard to resound on the remote banks of the Tallapoosa the dreadful noise of contending armies, never before did the limpid waters receive the tinge of human blood. The battle lasted 2 and a half or 3 hours. 9 of our men were slain on the fields, some say 100, some 200 and some 300 of the enemy. They retired behind the bank of the river and as they were shot rolled into the stream, and were also derived into it to prevent the efforts of the scalping knife. Some were killed in swimming across. It is supposed that between 1500 and 2000 of the enemy were engaged. 3 of our wounded died after the conflict. Capts. King, Little and Morise (Sic.) were wounded. The brave Adjutant Gen. Newman and our brave and respected Gen. Floyd, the latter having his knee pan broken, the former slightly in the leg. There were 18 rounds of canon fired shattering their miserable huts to pieces. The enemy stuck close to their houses before this, through holes which were cut, firing upon us. When the big guns were let loose, they left their huts and scampered like so many wild ants, some -arts of their conduct were truly strange, several of them remained in their houses quite passive during the battle, suffering themselves to be slain without resistance. Whether was this the effects' of prophetic influence? There were but few of them who were not in a state of complete nudity. Whether from necessity or choice I cannot pretend to say. Why from the former? for where are their dressed deer skins. Why from the latter? for it was very cold. Two of their kings shared the fatal portion of many of their subjects. The old Tallisee king mounted a horse from whence he encouraged his warriors by frequent waivings of his war club, himself firing upon us, at intervals with his rifle. Being discovered by Capt. Thomas, of the artillery, a cannon was directed towards him—charged with grape shot, one of which took effect in the neck of the brave old king; the club no longer felt the grasp of its war like possessor. Parker is said to have killed 3 or 4 of the enemy. Old Major Montgomery slew

one and aided in the slaughter. The victory, in my opinion, was mercy was relieved, mercy was asked by some of the poor devils, but none shown.

Two hundred of our men at Coweta were on the sick list. Dec. 7th.

The common calculation, as to the number of warriors in the Creek nation, falls very short of the real number. It is ascertained that there are at least 9000 fighting men 3400 men of the friendly party reported themselves to Gen. Floyd the other day. The common estimate has been 5 or 6000. Fort Mims⁴ was situated on this side of the Alabama near its mouth.

Abandoned Fort Lawrence to Capt. Twigg's company on the 11th Jan. and arrived at Fort Mitchell on the sixth day from the day of march, part of the time was disagreeable on account of the rain.

Marched for the Tallapoosa on the 17th

Arrived at fort Hull⁵ on the 20th

⁴Fort Mims was located just south of the Cut-Off, on the Alabama River. The site is in the present Baldwin County. It was a stockaded post erected around the home of Sam Mims, and was garrisoned on August 30, 1813, when the massacre took place, by several companies of local militia, and some regulars, and some Mississippi volunteers all under the command of Major Daniel Beasley.

The massacre on that occasion was prompted by William Weatherford but he did not take part. Nearly five hundred white settlers, including men, women, and children, and some negroes were killed and most of the bodies were burned. This site has had an interesting association with Alabama history. On Boatyard Lake two miles away was Pierce's school and gin. They dated as early as 1803. After the massacre and when Mrs. Mims, who was not present at the time of the uprising, had gone back there to live, she was visited by Mrs. Andrew Jackson who notes this fact in letters written from Montpelier, the home of David Tate some twelve miles northeast.

⁵Fort Hull was located on the Federal Road four and one half miles southeast of the present Tuskegee and there is today at that place a negro church and school known as the Fort Hull School. It is on the Russell plantation. The stockaded mound post was garrisoned for some time in 1813-14 by a company of militia from Putnam County, Georgia under Captain John Broadnax and a company from Franklin County under Lieutenant Adaroin. Captain Twiggs of the United States Army, later the celebrated General of the name, was in command.

After four days work on this fort it being in a good state and fit for defense against any enemy that might be expected to assault it, the army marched on towards its destination, Toochebathe old fields on Tuesday the 25th. Marched about 3 miles that day; just before we encamped, our leaders by their movements and by the evolutions of the columns instilled into us a belief that we were here to have battle. My regiment was on the left, and my company on the left of that but one. When the line was formed our front had fallen upon a swamp, here we fully expected to hear the rifles of the Red Clubs. The friendly by Indians on our left flank, having the same anticipations, blacked themselves, their faces, at some burnt lightwood stumps and logs. This is their way, in order to exhibit to their enemies an ugly an appearance as possible. As it turned out we were all agreeably disappointed, it was all show. This though was induced to inspire our commanders with some confidence in us. It had no bad effect. Next morning, it being the 26th we struck up the line of march early. Moved on about a mile and a half, struck off to the right into the woods, marched a mile, halted, faced about, (the Genl. having resolved to send back the wagons by which we were retarded) and marched back about 3/7ths of a mile to the ground on which we encamped. At this camp the next morning the 27th we were attacked by the enemy, before day about one half hour; the battle raged for about 3/4th of an hour when we charged upon them, drove them off, and killed several. Capt. Hamilton's troops of horse slew 15 in the charge. Our loss was 17 in killed and 132 in wounded. The number slain on the part of the enemy was ascertained to be about 50. The camp was too small, the men being two deep in line when drawn up to our camp. At the time of attack we had to draw in behind our fires, which made the lines still closer. If the camp had been fortified, to do which we had ample time, we should not have had 20 men in killed and wounded. We were on the battle ground six days in an entrenched camp. Thence moved down to Fort Hull on the 1st day of Feb. Thence on our return march for home on the 16th Feb. We reached the Oakmulge on the 26th. Thence were conveyed to Milledgeville and not discharged until the 7th March I speak now of our regiment. The other was not discharged perhaps until the 15th.

The friendly Indians, who were with us, exercised great barbarity upon the bodies of our enemies slain, on the morning after

the battle. They ripped them open, cut their heads to pieces, took out the heart of one, which was borne along in savage triumph by the perpetrators; and strange to tell, cut off the private parts of others. What bestial conduct!

One dead Indian was hoisted upon a dead horse and as he would tumble off, the savage spectators would cry out "Whiskey too much."

The men began to be quite sickly at Ft. Hull on account of the exposure at Camp Defiance.⁶ Dirty clothes, frequent night alarms jumping up in the cold and standing in the ditch for some time in consequence, and had water together with loss of sleep and getting wet as we were going down to the fort, are the causes of the sickness which prevailed; for we must always account for these things. There were three men in our company who behaved dishonorably, as it was said, B. Blackwell, Burley Andrew and Jesse Nash. I am sorry for this, there are men of this cast tho in all armies, it is natural, all men are not alike. Tot homines, tot sententiae et facultates. The charges against Col. Smith were 1st for disposing of public stores, powder, ball and blankets, 2nd ungentlemanly conduct in making the soldiers butcher beeves and appropriating the hides to his own use. 3rd granting a license to non-commissioned officers to retail spirituous liquors in Fort Lawrence. He was dismissed the service a few days before we left the advanced post; the charges having been substantiated. I have written

⁶Inasmuch as there is not a reference to the army crossing the Tallapoosa River, the site of this place must be near the mouth of Calebee Creek and adjacent to the old town site. General Thomas Woodward says that the battle of Calebee was fought a short distance from the present Union Methodist Church. The reader should see references to these points in Woodward's Reminiscences, where a full account of both the battle of Otossee and Calebee may be seen. Near Tysonville between Cuba and Calebee Creeks and on the South side (East), of the Tallapoosa, during the high waters of the river in 1919, a large number of burials were washed out, and these were accompanied by buttons. This might indicate that a number of Indian soldiers killed in the fight were buried there.

these last notes this 21st day of March 1814 at home depending upon the correctness of my memory as to the facts stated.⁷

Jas. A. Tait.

⁷Floyd's night fight on Calebee occurred quoting Woodward on the march West from Fort Hull and North of what was then known as the Federal Road from Milledgeville in Georgia to Fort Stephens in the Mississippi Territory. After the fight the Georgia army returned to Fort Mitchell, and most of them went home. From Fort Mitchell Colonel Homer V. Milton, of the Third United States Infantry, who had been left in command at Fort Hull, proceeded west to a point opposite Tuckabahchi Old Fields and erected in January, 1814 Fort Decatur on a high bluff of the Tallapoosa River near a place now known as Milledge. The location is where the Western of Alabama Railway runs very near the River. The embankments and earthworks of Fort Decatur are today as intact as when thrown up. The site is marked with a boulder which has been superimposed with a tablet, erected by the Alabama Anthropological Society, and dedicated with auspicious exercises participated in officially by the States of Georgia and North Carolina. Fort Decatur was erected by troops of the Seventh North Carolina volunteers. President James Madison sent former Governor John Sevier, a veteran of the American Revolution and the hero of King's Mountain, to Fort Decatur in the Summer of 1815 as the boundary line commissioner to run the line between the Creek Nation and the Mississippi Territory in accordance with the Treaty of Fort Jackson. General Sevier died the day after his arrival and his remains were at this place until they were exhumed and carried back to Knoxville in 1888.

Other Georgians who participated in the engagement at Calebee included Captain William Butler, a native of Virginia, but who had served in the Georgia Legislature, and Captain James Saffold, who commanded a company of artillery connected with the outfit of Major William McIntosh. The Saffold family has been long prominent in Alabama State history. Captain William Butler was killed in an Indian uprising in 1818 within the territory of a present day Alabama County which bears his name.

CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Oldest Church in Jefferson County

By
Bess Stout Lambert

Old Canaan Baptist church, founded September 5, 1818, may well be called the mother church of the Baptist denomination in Jefferson County. This church was located near old Jonesboro when it was first organized. It has been moved many times since. The congregation has had its ups and downs but it still has a fine congregation, a well-organized Sunday school and all the departments of Christian service are alive and flourishing.

This church was organized sixty-eight years before the founding of Bessemer and for a long time was located just inside Cedar Hill Cemetery in Bessemer. Many of the first graves in Bessemer were located in the church yard.

Brothers Speer and Duncan were the first deacons. The church in that sparsely settled country had less than thirty members. Reverend John Henry was the first pastor. He was called May second, 1819, and served until June 22, 1822. Then Reverend Hosea Holcomb served from July, 1822, until December 3, 1834. During his term as pastor the membership increased and the church was extended.

Members got permission to start new churches at Rock Creek, Elyton and Rupee Valley. Then a helping hand was given to Ruhama and a little later a new church was begun near Thomas Spring in September, 1825. There were a number of Negro slaves who were received as members and a few Indians.

In March, 1827, Canaan was received into the Mount Zion Baptist Association. Then in 1833 Canaan withdrew to help sister churches for a new association. The church was served from 1837 to 1847 by two pastors, Reverend Willie Burrus and Reverend John Lansing.

It is interesting to note that the first missionary funds were collected in 1847. This was the year that the membership dwindled from 105 to just 29.

When H. G. Smith became pastor in 1850 the church was moved to Shades Creek. James P. Massey was the first treasurer of Canaan Church. The church history records show that the pioneers were even as humanity is now for the early members were disciplined for such sins as: dishonesty, dancing, lying, profanity, drunkenness, adultery, fornication and failure to attend church.

The new church building at Morgan was dedicated in May, 1906 when W. S. Harrison was pastor. In 1910, Lacey's Chapel was organized with Mr. and Mrs. Vester Gables, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Sims and Mary Nolan.

The early roster bears the names of Drennan, Calfee, Moses, Pearson, Hogg, McMath, Buck, Janes, Davis, Garrett, Rolin, Mackcock, Wood, Harwood, and Hathcock.

This wonderful church, which started with fewer than 30 members in 1818, still carries on. Strange things have come to pass, wars, floods, disasters of many sorts and degrees. But still its spires waft the prayers of the goodly up into the blue ether and seem as fingers pointing the way to . . . GOD.

MARTIN MARSHALL'S BOOK: HERB MEDICINE*

(Continued from *The Alabama Historical Quarterly*, Fall Issue, 1940)

Edited by Weymouth T. Jordan¹

Fever Weed, or fever Grass—

Take one handful of this grass, Boil it slow and constant in one quart of water until one third is evaporated—Then take out the grass and cool the tea—Give one half pint every Ten minutes until it pukes, drink water, it works sufficiently—After the medicine has operated there is no danger in taking common diet—Drink Soup or geel (?) plentifully with little salt to make it palatable.

Agrimony—

Grows on high land from one to two feet high—blossoms in July on long spikes—Yellow.

In tea it forms a good drink in fevers. The juice of this plant, or a strong infusion of the roots, two handfulls to a quart of boiling water, and sweetened with honey, is an excellent medicine in the Jaundice, Scurvy, & habitual diarrhea or looseness—

Dose of the infusion, half a pint; of the juice a wineglassfull three times a day. The herb has been ap(p)lied externally to fresh wounds; and is said to be good to prevent mortification—

Black Alder—

The bark is tonic, and accordingly is used in substance or in strong decoction, like the Peruvian bark in intermittents, & other cases of debility, as Dropsy, Jaundice, Gangrene, etc. The inner bark in poultice externally, with the deco(c)tion internally, is celebrated as of admirable use in arresting the progress of mortification.

* Research for this study was made possible through a grant-in-aid of the Social Science Research Council.

1. See the editor's "Martin Marshall's Book: Introduction," *The Alabama Historical Quarterly* (Summer Issue, 1940), 158-168, for his description of the material being used in this series of articles. See also his "Martin Marshall's Book: Household Hints," in *ibid.* (Fall Issue, 1940), 318-330.

Angelica.

Every part of this useful vegetable partakes of its aromatic virtues, but especially the root, which in the form of powder, tincture of tea, is useful in flatulent colics—Conjoined with Dogwood bark, or any other tonic, it may, like the Peruvian bark, be employed with advantage in intermittent and low stages of fever—

The dose, one teaspoonful, in substance, of the former, to two of the latter.

It may also be employed in the form of a strong decoction, in doses of a gill, or in cold phlegmatic habits, in tincture, either alone, or with dogwood berries, century, lemon peel, or any other article of the bitter & tonic class.

A strong decoction of the root, combined with red oak bark, a large handful of each to a pint of boiling water, makes an admirable gargle for relaxed and spongy, and ulcerated sore throats.

Arrow root—

A table spoonful make(s) a pint of the finest jelly in nature, which afford(s) the most nutritious food in acute diseases for children.

To persons labouring under bowel complaints, as diarrhea and dysentery, it is of itself a remedy. The jelly is made in the following manner—To a table spoonful of the powdered root, add as much cold water as will make it into a thin paste, then pour on boiling water through the spout of a kettle, stir(r)ing it at the same time briskly, till it becomes a clear jelly; after which season it with sugar & nutmeg, & to render it still more palatable, a little wine or lemon juice may be added. But to children, blending it with new milk is best.

Bayberry.

Called also Dwarf Candelberry Myrtle, grows in low grounds to the height of two or three feet, and numerous green berries, of which tallow is made—the leaves are of a deep green. The bark of the root has been considered a good remedy for the jaundice. The powder of it, in doses of 20 or 30 grains, has been employed as a mild emetic. The inner bark, in poultice, ap(p)lied morning & evening to scrophulous swellings, and drinking a teacupful of a strong infusion of the leaves, is said to have wrought surprising cures in a few weeks.

Bearberry,

Bears whortleberry—wild cranberry. Is a low evergreen shrub, somewhat resembling the myrtle. The leaves have a bitter astringent taste, & unquestionably possess greater medical virtues, especially in relieving the irritation of the stone, gravel, & old cases of gonorrhea, menstrual discharges, also catarrhs and consumptions.

The Dose—half a pint twice or thrice a day of a decoction made of the leaves, a handfull to a pint, or a teaspoonful in substance, two or three times a day.

Benne.

The leaves by infusion afford an excellent mucilaginous drink, which is used with advantage in dysentery, diarrhea, and . . . Colics in infant.

Dewberry

The roots are famous as an astringent. Two handfulls of the clear roots in three pints of milk or water boiled to a quart, and given in doses of a tea cupful every two or three hours, has often cured obstinate diarrhea and dysentery, when the best medicines of the shop had failed—

Button Snakeroot—

This root is a powerful sudorific; but in cases of gangrene and foul ulcers, is perhaps superior to any thing yet discovered. The mode of applying it, is in the form of poultice, by boiling it soft. The root boiled in sweet milk, is said to be a good remedy against the bite of a snake.

Burdock.

The juice of the fresh leaves, or an infusion or decoction of the roots, operates greatly on the bowells, sweetens the blood, promotes sweat & urine, and is esteemed serviceable in scorbutic, rheumatic, and venereal disorders. The juice is given in doses of of a wine glassful, and the decoction half a pint three times a day.

Calimus, or sweet flag—

The root possesses stomachic virtues, and is frequently grated in water, & given to children for flatulent colics, free of fever. It is sometimes used as an ingredient with dogwood, cherry bark, centuary etc. in morning bitters, as a prevention of the ague in low marshy Situations.

Caraway.

A choice aromatic—grows kindly in our gardens. The seeds assist digestion, strengthen the stomach, & are serviceable in flatulent colics.

The dose of the seeds in powder, from one to two tea spoonfuls to adults.

Centuary.

Is a fine stomachic bitter

Cammomile.

Is good in complaints of the stomach arising from debility. In form of fomentation & poultice, it is serviceable in discussing hard tumors.

Cherry Tree.

The bark of the wild cherry tree is an excellent tonic. It may be employed either in powder or decoction in the same doses as peruvian bark. A strong infusion of it in sound cider is said to be useful in the jaundice. A decoction of the bark will be found a good wash to ill conditioned ulcers

Red Chickweed, is a specific in the hydrophobia, or bite of a mad dog. The dose for an adult is a small tablespoonfull of the dried leaves in powder. For beasts the dose is much larger. Also called red pimpernel.

Cinquefoil.

The whole of the plant, particularly the root, in the form of decoction, a handful to a quart of water, or milk, boiled slowly, & sweetened with loaf sugar, is recommended for dysentery and bowel complaints—The dose for adults is a teacupful three or four times a day, and one third or half the quantity for children—

Comprey.

A handful of the roots boiled in milk, & given in doses of a teacupful three or four times a day, is a popular remedy for dysentery, bowel complaints, & the flour albus or whites. It is also beneficial as a diet drink in venereal disease, or in cases attended with a burning heat in making water.

Coriander.

The seeds are warm, & . . . pleasant flavour, & in doses from a tea, to a table spoonful, have been found useful in cases of indigestion, and flatulence.

When mixed with Lenna, they more effectually correct the odour & taste of the infusion, than any other aromatic. They also form an excellent addition to ingredients for bitters.

Devils Bit.

The root of this plant is a very pungent bitter, & is employed as a tonic, either in the form of tincture or infusion. In this last form it has also been employed as a vermifuge.

Dill.

Flourishes in our gardens, producing seeds delightfully aromatic, which, in doses of one to two teaspoonfuls, are excellent to remove flatulent colics, and assist digestion.

Dogwood.

The bark of this famous tree possesses tonic powers, which gives it control over intermittents, gangrene, & all diseases proceeding from debility. Like the peruvian bark, but in somewhat larger doses, it may be used in substance or decoction, infusion or tincture, either alone or conjoined with snakeroot, or some of the aromatics. But the shape in which it will be found most agreeable, is that of an extract, which is easily prepared by boiling the bark, straining it, & then evaporating it very slowly to the consistence of honey. To prevent the fatal effects of burning it, the vessel in which it is evaporated, should be of the wide mouth sort, placed in a large pot of water, and often stir(r)ed toward the close of the operation. The dose is from half to a whole teaspoonful, three or four times a day—

The beautiful red berries of dogwood, combined with lemon peel, snake root, calimus, or any other warm aromatic seeds, form a fine bitter against the common fall complaints.

Elder, Common.

Grows to the height of a small tree, in hedges, and along the borders of meadows: the young shoots are full of pith, and the old stalks empty; flowers in July, & the berries of a blackish purple colour when ripe.

The expressed juice of the elder berries put into a plate, or wide mouth vessel, & evaporated in the sun to the state of extract, in doses from a tea to a table spoonful, acts as a good asperient medicine.

A tea made of the leaves, a large handful to a quart of boiling water, & taken freely, removes a costive habit, promotes perspiration, & thus proves useful in eruptions of the skin, St. Anthony's fire, colds, dropsies, and all obstructions of the viscera.

The inner green bark, steeped in wine a large handful to a pint, or made into a strong decoction, purges gently, in doses of a gill—repeat if necessary. The flours (*sic*) form a good tea in fevers, and the flours (*sic*), leaves, or inner bark stewed with lard, form a good ointment for burns.

Elicampane.

Grows three or four feet high, flours (*sic*) large and yellow, in July & August; and the root when dry, has an agreeable aromatic smell, and in a decoction sweetened with honey, or in the form of syrup, or a teaspoonful of the powdered root, is recommended for promoting expectoration in the asthma & coughs. The fresh root, in ointment, or strong decoction, is said to cure the Itch.

A syrup made of equal parts of Elicampane root & hoarhound leaves, with honey; a teaspoonful three times a day, is said to have cured a cough, when the patient was supposed to be in consumption—

Carrot, wild—

The wild carrot grows two or three feet high in meadows and pastures, and flowers in July. The seeds have an agreeable aromatic smell and in a slight degree, a warm pungent taste.

Half a handful of the leaves or seeds infused in a pint of warm water, and taken in doses of a teacupful every hour or two, gives relief in suppression of urine, and is also serviceable in promoting the menses—

The roots of the Carrot cultivated in our Gardens, beaten to a pulp, form an excellent application to cancerous & other ill conditioned sores—

An infusion of these roots has also been found useful in gravel complaints.

Elm. Slippery—

A teaspoonful of the inner bark in powder to a pint of boiling water, forms a rich jelley, which is good in diarrhea and dysentery—With the addition of a little sugar, lemon juice, or nutmeg, it might be used as a substitute for arrowroot, or sago—

Featherfew, or Feverfew.

It is frequently cultivated in gardens. A handfull of the leaves & tops infused in a quart of water and given in doses of a tea cupful three or four times a day, is useful to promote the menses, to Strengthen the stomach, to raise the spirits, and to promote perspiration in colds and fevers—

Fennel. Sweet—

A tea spoonful of the seeds with a little sugar & Spirits, is remedy in flatulent colics—To children afflicted with colic, an infusion of the Seeds sweetened is highly serviceable.

Fig Tree.

A decoction of figs makes an excellent gargle for cleansing the throat or mouth, and the fruit, externally applied to tumors, or gum biles, is good to promote suppuration. When unripe, figs, as well as the whole tree, yield an acrid milky juice, which externally applied is a mild caustic, and is used to remove warts, ring and tetter worms—

Flaxseed.

Possess great medicinal virtues. In infusion, tea, or syrup with honey—Useful for coughs, colds, diseases of the breast and lungs—Ochra possesses similar virtues—

Garlic, Common.

Is highly stimulating, & therefore used to persons of cold phlegmatic constitution.

Butterfly weed, or Pleurisy Root—

The Flowers are of a bright orange colour and appear in June and July: The root is spindle or carrot shaped, of a light brownish colour on the outside, white within—Good in violent colds and pleurisies. No medicine is better calculated . . . to produce general and plentiful perspiration without heating the body—

A teacupfull of a strong tea made of the root may be taken every 15 or 20 minutes, in violent cases, until a free perspiration is raised, after which, a sufficient quantity Should be given at intervals as the case may require to keep a gentle perspiration. Of the root finely powdered, from $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ a teaspoonful in a cup of warm water, may be given every two hours, to keep up a gentle perspiration—The powder of the dried root should be kept for use when needed—

Heart Snake root—

Commonly called heart leaves, well-known—The juice of the root and leaf pounded together in dose of a tablespoonful for an adult, is an active and safe emetic.

Hops in form of fomentation & poultice serve as a most valuable application to ill-conditioned ulcers, or painful cancerous sores.

Horse radish.

It has long been known to be a powerful antiscorbutic, & when taken freely, it stimulates the nervous system, promotes urine, & perspiration, and is thereby usefully employed in palsy, dropsy, scurvy, & chronic rheumatism. The root should be cut into small pieces, without bruising, & swallowed in the dose of a table spoonful without chewing, once or twice a day, or it may be steeped in wine, & taken in doses of a small wine glassful.

In form of sugar, it is said to be excellent in hoarseness, or in the decline of violent colds and pleurisies whether externally or internally employed it proves a stimulant; hence it has been found serviceable by chewing it in palsy of the tongue, & applied in paralytic complaints to affected parts. It is said, the root steeped in vinegar, will remove freckles of the face; if so, it deserves to be tried in cases of Ring & tetter worm.

Hyssop,

Is cultivated in our gardens. An infusion of the leaves, Sweetened with honey, or in honey, or in the form of syrup, is useful in humorous asthma, coughs, & other disorders of the breast and lungs, accompanied with inflammatory symptoms. A tea of the Hyssop is frequently taken to promote perspiration and Sweat—

Ice plant.

Grows in the woods to the height, of . . . six inches, and becomes white in September; . . . the stalk & leaves are like frozen jelly, and when handled, dissolves as ice. The root pulverized, in doses of a half or teaspoonful, in the morning, is said to be a good remedy for children troubled with the fits. Adults may take it in much larger doses.

Indian physic, or American Ipecacuanha.

Grows about two to three feet high, in low woods and meadows. The root, which is the part made use of, is said to be a safe and efficacious Emetic. It is said to be equal, if not superior (to) the imported Ipecacuanha. In the dose of thirty to forty grains in powder for an adult, it (is) one of the most safe and certain emetics. In broken doses of five or six grains, every two hours, it is equally valuable as a sudorific. It may also be given in infusion, a handful to a pint of boiling water, of which a small teacupfull may be taken every fifteen or twenty minutes, until it promotes vomiting—

A pamphlet was written on the virtues of this plant, by Colo. Bird, of Virginia—

Indian Turnip.

Grows in meadows and swamps, six or eight inches high, purple stalks, leaves three in number, roundish, or heart shaped, and berries of a bright scarlet colour. It is a very acrid plant. An ointment prepared by simmering the fresh root in hog's lard, and one eighth part wax, is said to be a good application in the scald head. It is said that the recent root, boiled in milk, has been advantageously employed in cases of consumption. It is also recommended in the asthma, & (w)hooping cough, in the form of conserve, made of a pound of the peeled root pounded finely in a mortar, with three pounds of loaf sugar; dose, a teaspoonful twice or thrice a day.

Mandrake, or May apple.

Grows in low grounds, one to two feet high, leaves generally three, broad at the base, and terminating in a sharp point; flowers yellow; the fruit resembling a lime, or small yellow apple, which is much admired by some. The root is an excellent purgative, and may be taken in doses from ten to thirty grains in substance, or

double the quantity infused in a gill of water—Equal parts of the juice and molasses may be mixed, and a table spoonful taken every hour or two until it operates.

The best time for gathering the mandrake root, is in autumn when the leaves have turned yellow. Dry it in the shade, & powder it for use.

Marsh Mallow—

Grows in marshes & wet places. The leaves have a soft woolly surface feelinly (*sic*) like velvet. The flowers are of a white or pale flesh colour, and appear in August. Every part of the marsh mallow, & especially the root, when boiled, yields a copious mucilage; on account of which it is employed in emolient cataplasms or poultices, for softening & maturing hard tumors. It is likewise of eminent service in the form of infusion, in asthma, ho(a)rseness, dysentery and gravel.

Mistleto(e), is found on several kinds of trees. That which grows on the oak is said to have cured epilepsy or fits. It is directed that the mistleto(e) be separated from the oak, about the last of November, gradually dried, & when pulverized, confined in a bottle well corked; to be given in doses of a tea spoonful three or four times a day, gradually increasing the dose according to its effects—

Milk, or Silk weed—

Grows on sandy ground, about three feet high; the Stalks square; leaves oval and milky; flowers yellow, which terminate in a pod resembling a cucumber, filled with down, which when ripe, is blown away.

A handful of the root boiled . . . slowly in a quart of water for half an hour & given in doses of a gill or more three or four times a day, is reputed to be an effectual remedy in the cure of dropsy, & serviceable in catarrhs, scrophulous & rheumatic diseases, & gravel complaints—

Mcuth root, or Golden thread.

Is found in swamps. The stems erect & naked; the leaves grow by threes (at the) termination of the stems; the white solitary blossoms appear in May; the roots are thread shaped, & of a bright yellow colour, & possess considerable astringency & bitterness.

The root is employed as a remedy for the thrush & cancerous sores in the mouths of children.

Mullen.

The leaves, a handful to a quart of milk, is (*sic*) a common remedy in bowel complaints.

In form of fomentation or poultice, it is employed to relieve the piles, & other painful swellings; and in a dry & pulverized state, to destroy fungous or proud flesh.

Onions.

Possess similar virtues with the garlic, only in a less degree. The disagreeable smell which they impart to the breath may be effectively obviated by eating a few leave(s) of parsley immediately after the onions. Onions are justly reputed an efficacious remedy in suppression of urine, in dropsies, & in abcess of the liver, when freely eaten.

Peach Tree.

Both the flowers and leaves are excellent cathartics, & ought to be preserved by every family. A teaspoonful of a strong infusion, sweetened, and taken every hour or two, will operate mildly on the bowells, without griping as Sennadoes. Of the syrup prepared by boiling slowly the juice of the leaves, with nearly an equal quantity of molasses, honey, or sugar, a table spoonful to children, & a wine glassful to adults, will prove a mild laxative medicine. A decoction, prepared by boiling a handful of the dried leaves in a squart of water to a pint and a half, and taken in doses of a teacupful every two or three hours, is reputed, upon respectable authority, to have proved an effectual remedy in many cases of affections of the kidneys or gravel complaints, as also in cases of voiding blood by urine, which has resisted the usual remedies.

Pennyroyal

An infusion, a handful to a quart of boiling water, a teacupful the dose three times a day, has long been esteemed in hy(s)teric complaints, and obstruction of the menses.

Peppermint.

Is an excellent stomachic in flatulent colics, lanquors, hysteric cases, and vomiting. The usual modes of administering it, are

infusion, the distilled water, and the essential oil. This last, united with rectified Spirits of wine, forms the essence of peppermint, is highly esteemed. In nausea, cholera morbus, obstinate vomiting & griping, peppermint, infused in spirit, and applied as hot as can be endured to the stomach & bowels, will be found a most valuable remedy.

Pepper, Red or cayenne—

Is beneficial in chronic rheumatism, flatulence violent pain or cramp of the stomach, gargle in putrid sore throats etc.—

Pinkroot.

Is deservedly esteemed a vermifuge. An infusion, a handful to a quart of boiling water, and one or two tea cupfuls night & morning, is the usual form & dose. With the addition of milk & sugar children will readily take it. It sometimes occasions disagreeable affections of the eyes; when this occurs, suspend the use of the medicine until these symptoms disappear, and then select from another parcel, or make tea of the tops only, as it is supposed the deleterious effects are in consequence of some other root being attached to it.

Polypody.

Grows at the roots of trees, and on the limbs—flourishes from June to October. An infusion of the leaves is a promoter of the menses, and will cause abortion, and should be used with caution. It is said that a powder of the leaves is a styptic; and when sprinkled on a fresh wound, will stop the bleeding—

Pomegranate, Cultivated in our gardens.

Its rind boiled in milk, & drank freely, or in powder, a tea-spoonful for a dose, three times a day, has been used with success in diarrheas, dysenteries, & other diseases requiring astringent medicine. The flowers possess the virtues of the rind, only in a less degree.

Prickly Ash, & Prickly yellow wood.

Possess the same virtues. Both species are covered with numerous prickles, whence the name. Both the bark & berry are of a hot acrid taste, and when chewed, powerfully promote spittle. It is used in this way to cure the toothache, as well as by putting some within the hollow. Also to cure the palsy of the tongue. A decoction, or infusion of the bark of the root, a small handful

to a quart of boiling water, in doses of half a pint three or four times a day, has been employed with great success in chronic rheumatism, paralytic affections, & venereal disease. There is no medicine which I have found so effectual in relieving nocturnal pains, and disposing venereal ulcers to heal, as the prickly ash in the above forms and doses.

A tincture, prepared by steeping half a pint of the berries, or a handful of the bark in a bottle of spirits, is much esteemed as a remedy in doses of a wine glassful in flatulent colics. It is sometimes employed in this form, in cold phlegmatic habits, afflicted with rheumatism—

Pride of India, or China.

A decoction made by boiling a large handful of the fresh bark of the root in three pints of water to nearly a quart, and given to children in doses from half to a whole wine glassful, sweetened, is an admirable vermifuge. The vessel in which it is boiled, must not be covered. In the year 1817, I had a negro child about six years & six months old, which appeared at the point of dying. I gave her the above decoction, and within twenty-four hours she discharged Two hundred and ninety-eight worms, from four to six inches: the child recovered, and has since then, generally enjoyed good health.

Samson Snake root, possesses in a very great degree tonic powers; it relieves in dyspepsia, or indigestion, and is useful in diarrhea or dysentery. Steep a handful of the roots in a bottle of spirits, and take half a wine glass diluted with water three time(s) a day—or boil of the roots in water, & take a wine glassful occasionally to promote perspiration. I have received much benefit from chewing and swallowing the root—It grows from six to twelve inches high, on dry land, & bears on the top two or three pale blue flowers; L(e)aves opposite, nearly round; the roots white, from four to eight inches long, from two to four or five to each stalk, and has an agreeable bitter taste—

Sassafras.

An infusion, or tea of the flowers, or bark of the root, has often been successfully given as a sweetener or purifier of the blood, in scorbutic, venereal, & cutaneous disorders, or where an acrimony of the fluids prevails. Conjoined with the bark of dog-

wood, Cherry tree, or oak, it is very useful in obstinate intermittents. The oil, externally applied in chronic rheumatism, and also in wens, has often proved salutary. The pith of the small twigs, in water, form a mucilage of excellent use for sore eyes, and as an injection in the incipient stage of gonorrhea. It also affords, when sweetened, with the addition of nutmeg, a palatable Jelly, useful in dysentery and febrile diseases—

Senna.

It has long been employed as a purgative. To increase its effects on the bowels, manna, salts, or tamarinds are generally added. To correct its ill flavour, & prevent griping it should be joined with some aromatic, as coriander or fennel seed, ginger, etc. In the form of decoction, a handful to a pint of water, the dose is a teacupfull every hour or two, until it operates.

It may also be exhibited in form of tincture, to relieve flatu(lent) colics, four ounces of Senna to a quart of spirits, with an ounce of coriander seed, or ginger, and a wine glassful the dose.

Skunk Cabbage.

Grows in swamps and meadows, & emits a disagreeable smell, nearly resembling that of a skunk or polecat, & from this, & its leaves resembling those of a cabbage, it has acquired its name. The roots dried & powdered, has proved of excellent use in asthmatic cases, & often afforded relief in this distressing disease, when other means were ineffectual. It should be exhibited during the paroxysm, & repeated as circumstances may require, in doses of 30 to 40 grains. It will be proper to persevere in the use of it for some time after the paroxysm has gone off, until the patient has perfectly recovered.

In one of the most violent asthmatic cases, two teaspoonfuls of the powdered root in spirits, procured immediate relief, & on repeating the trials with the same patient it afforded more lasting benefit than any other medicine. In numerous other instances of spasm, & also in chronic & acute rheumatism, & dropsy, in powder or decoction, it has performed important cures. The seeds possess the same virtue with the root—It has no stalk—

Tansy.

This plant possesses a warm bitter taste, and may be used as a substitute for hops. An infusion of the leaves is recommended

for a weak stomach, hysteric complaints, and obstructed menses—It is said that the seeds are an excellent vermifuge, in doses from a struple to a drachm.

Unicorn Root—

Grows in flat pinewoods about eight or ten inches high; leaves partly spear-shaped, lying on the ground, and are green all the winter. The flowers grow on the stalk nearly from the ground, which hang down at the top when fully blown; the root is whitish, full of small fibres, about the thickness of the end of the little finger, & crooked at the end.

The powdered root, in doses from a half to a tea spoonful, is said to afford relief in hysterics, and flatulent or wind colic. A large handful of the root steeped in a quart of spirits, in doses of a wine glassful three times a day, is highly esteemed by some as a valuable remedy in chronic rheumatism. The dose should be regulated so as to keep the body moderately laxative—

Yarrow. Cultivated in our gardens—

A handful of the tops of yarrow infused in a quart of boiling water, in doses of a teacupful three or four times a day, is reputed as a valuable medicine in dysentery, bloody urine, bleeding piles, & restraining immoderate flow of the menses. A table spoonful of the expressed juice taken twice a day, and the herb bruised, or in the form of poultice, is said to have cured a cancer of the breast. The green leaves pounded, and applied over a bruise, dissipates it in a few days.

Sumach, Common, or white.

The berries or seeds, when ripe, are red & very acid. An infusion of them, sweetened with honey, is a good gargle for the sore throat, & for cleansing the mouth in putrid fevers.

The bark of the root Sumach has been considered to be one of the best antiseptics produced by vegetation. Corroding ulcers, defying every common application, immediately began to heal by washing them with a strong decoction, and applying the boiled bark as a poultice. It is a very important material in decoction for hectic and scrofulous diseases. It constitutes one of the ingredients in the following remedy for the venereal disease.

Of the inner bark of pine, and slippery elm, and the bark of the root of sumach, take each one pound, boil them in a gallon of water to three quarts, drink half a pint three times a day; if costiveness is produced, a dose of salts may be used. If there be ulcers, they are to be washed with the decoction made warm. The detergent effects will appear in a very short time. Abstinence from too much stimulants will accelerate the cure.

This remedy is one of Heaven's best mercies to offending man, and instances can be produced of the effects of it, which would stagger credulity. Mercury and nitric acid, have failed, but this has never been known to fail when properly applied. It is, moreover, a fine application in dysenteric affections.

Boneset is sudorific, tonic, antiseptic, cathartic, emetic, stimulant, etc. It is an intense bitter tonic, possessing very active powers. In large doses, the warm decoction proves emetic, and a cold infusion acts as a powerful tonic. It is also said to act with much effect upon the skin, removing o(b)stinate cutaneous diseases. Large doses of the cold infusion often operate as a cathartic.

It is likewise said to be an antidote to the bite of snakes; and an excellent remedy for billious (*sic*) colic attended with obstinate constipation of the bowels. For this purpose, a tea cupful of the cold infusion must be given every half hour until it produces a cathartic effect.

The warm infusion acts as a sudorific, producing copious perspiration. It is also an excellent article for coughs; and is likewise used in hysterical complaints. In dropsical complaints it is employed as a diuretic. The leaves on the part of the plant which is used for medicinal purposes, of which the extract and syrup contain all the medicinal properties, and are least disagreeable to the taste.

Rhubarb—

That which is raised in our Gardens, if allowed to attain the age of Six, eight, or ten years, is said to be equall(y) good or better than the imported.

Rhubarb is a fine mild and tonic purge, very useful in bowel complaints, as it has a tendency to leave the bowels in a costive state; it should therefore never be used in costive habits. Dose from one to two teaspoons full.

A very elegant & pleasant medicine for children may be made by scorching or rather roasting, but not burning, pulverized rhubarb, and putting about one ounce to a pint of brandy, with enough essence of cinnamon to give it a good flavor, and then sweetening very sweet with loaf sugar. This, in a teaspoonful or larger doses, is a very valuable remedy for all bowel complaints.

Worm Seed. Jerusalem oak seed—

Worm seed is one of the oldest and most common anthelmintics, especially in the lumbrice of children. On account of their essential oil, they are heating and stimulating. They are given to children to the extent of ten grains, or $\frac{1}{2}$ a drachm, finely powdered, & stewed on bread & butter; or made into an electuary with honey or treach, or candied with sugar; or diffused through milk, & taken in the morning when the stomach is empty. After they have been used for some days, it is customary to give a cathartic; or they are combined from the beginning with rhubarb, Jalap, or calomel—The above dose is rather too small—

LETTER FROM JEFFERSON DAVIS TO GENERAL BEAUREGARD.

(The following letter from President Jefferson Davis, to General G. L. Beauregard, is of peculiar interest in that it shows a personal warmth and appreciation not always ascribed to Mr. Davis by writers. This rare letter is printed with the permission of the owner, Mr. Charles Dobbins, Editor of the Anniston Star.)

Richmond, Va.

Oct. 16, 1861

My dear Genl.

Enclosed you will find a letter and slip referred to in it, also another slip derived from a different and as supposed friendly source. You will be able better than myself to judge of the value or importance of the matter contained in these papers.

A man has been sent up to confer with Genl. Johnston and yourself in relation to the preparation of winter quarters and the employment of negroes in the construction of a line of intrenchment. The Secty of State commended him as a man of great capacity for such work.

I have thought often upon the questions of reorganization which were submitted to you and it has seemed to me that whether in view of disease, or the disappointment and suffering of a winter cantonment on a line of defence or of a battle to be fought in and near your position, that it was desirable to combine the troops by a new distribution with as little delay as practicable. Your army is composed of men of intelligence and future expectations.

They will be stimulated to extraordinary effort when so organized that the fame of their state will be in their keeping and that each will feel that his immediate commander will desire to exalt rather diminish his services. You pointed me to the fact that you had observed that rule in the case of the La. Ga. troops, and you will not fail to perceive that others find in the fact a reason for the like disposal of them. In the hour of sickness and

the tedium of waiting for spring men from the same region will best console and relieve each other. The maintenance of our cause rests on the sentiment of the people; letters from the camps complaining of inequality and harshness in the treatment of the men have already dulled the enthusiasm which filled our ranks with men who by birth, fortune, education and social position were the equals of any officer in the land. The spirit of our military law is manifested in the fact that the State organization was limited to the Regiment (.). The Vols. come in sufficient numbers to have Brigadiers but have only Colonels. It was not then intended 'tis the necessary conclusion, that those troops should be under the "immediate" command of officers above the grade of Colonel. The spirit of the law thus indicates that Brigades should be larger than customary the General being the remote commander of the individuals. Charged with the care, the direction, the preservation of the men rather than the internal police; he has time to visit hospitals, to inquire into supplies, to supervise where others must execute, and the men come to regard him when so habitually seen as the friend of the individual, but they also know him in another capacity and there removed, as it were placed on a pedestal, he seems the power that moves and controls the mass. This is not an ideal, but a sketch of Taylor when Genl. of the little army many of whom would no sooner have questioned his decisions or have shrunk from him in the hour of danger than if he had been their Father. The other point was the necessity for unity in the army of the Potomac. The embarrassment was felt and the sentiment of commanders appreciated, but rivalry running into jealousy is the unavoidable attendant of difference in the discipline, the usage and the supplies of Camps. How much more so must it be when corps are associated together with the inevitable diversity resulting from control by different minds and in which a reference is made to distinct antecedents which have never disappeared by a visible transition from the existence under independent heads. I have had applications made to me for transfers from one corps to another and among the reasons given was that the sick of one were permitted to go to hospital when under like circumstances they were in the other confined to their encampment.

Mr. Benjamin informed me that you had expressed the wish, in the event of your corps being made an undivided portion of the

army, to be relieved and sent to New Orleans. If I had thought you could be dispensed with it would have given me pleasure long since to have relieved the solicitude of the people of New Orleans by sending you there, but I cannot anticipate the time when it would seem to me proper to withdraw you from the position with which you are so intimately acquainted and for which you have shown yourself so eminently qualified. Nor have I felt that to another could be transferred the moral power you have over the troops you have commanded. My appreciation of you as a soldier and my regard for you as a man cannot permit me willingly to wound your sensibility or to diminish your sphere of usefulness.

Very truly your friend

Jefferson Davis

Genl. G. L. Beauregard.

(Eight-page letter owned by Charles G. Dobbins, Anniston, Ala.)

ORIGINAL ANECDOTES ABOUT NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

From Mobile Commercial Register, 1831

(The following brief reprint from the Commercial Register (Mobile) of February 19, 1831, concludes the interview of Col. Nicholas Raoul, concerning Napoleon Bonaparte, under whom he served in the French army and who on the downfall of Napoleon came to Alabama with the Vine and Olive Colony, which settled Demopolis.)

COL. RAOUL.

Saturday morning Feb. 19, 1831.

Col. Raoul.—The extract in this morning's paper from the "Journal of an Officer," will be interesting to many of our readers, on account particularly of the individual who there figures prominently as the devoted friend and ardent admirer of Napoleon, whose regard and confidence he appears to have enjoyed, and whose fortunes he shared in the days of his adversity, as well as prosperity. As the author of the Journal expresses much interest for the welfare of his friend, we will add a brief history of him since they parted in Italy. Col. Raoul embarked, as the writer correctly understood, from Marseilles and arrived at New Orleans in the year 1818; and in 1819, he joined the distinguished French emigrants at Demopolis, in Alabama. In 1822 or 1823, he removed to Mobile, and resided here several years in reduced circumstances. In the Spring of 1825, he embarked from this Port on board a Columbian vessel bound for Carthagen, with the hope of obtaining military employment under the government of Columbia.

On his arrival at Carthagen, we were informed the state of political affairs in that Country, presented little prospect of success in the object of his visit, and he was induced by his friends to proceed to Central America, where the aid of an officer of his military experience was much required to conduct their troubled

affairs to a prosperous termination. Col. Raoul accordingly departed without even visiting Bogota, and in Central America he met with a flattering reception. He was immediately employed by the Government with a very handsome income but in a very short time after, in one of their intestine commotions, he was rather unaccountably found at the Head of what were termed the **Insurgent** forces against the Government, and actually approached within a few miles of the City of Guatemala, Here he felt a victim to treachery and was betrayed with his whole army into the hands of his enemies. He was thrown into prison, but finally set at liberty under an injunction to retire to private life, or leave the country, as late as the past summer, we understood he was residing in Guatemala, in slender pecuniary circumstances.

Colonel Raoul was the son of a Field Marshal in the Reign of Louis XVI and was educated in the Polytechnic School at Paris. He enjoyed the high respect of his countrymen here. We were personally acquainted with him, and know much of his history from himself. He is a man of polished manners, affable and intelligent, and bore the reputation of a finished Scholar.

Under the recent change of circumstances in his native country, it is not improbable that honors and distinction await his return.

DIARY OF CAPTAIN EDWARD CRENSHAW OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES ARMY

(This issue of the Quarterly carries the final part of the diary of
Captain Crenshaw.)

Friday, 31st.

Clear and pleasant. No news to-day. Remained on board ship all day. Finished my quarterly returns to-day, and forwarded them.

Saturday, April 1st.—

Clear and pleasant. Went to Richmond to day, and returned in the evening. No news to-day.

1865.

April,

Sunday 2d.

Clear and beautiful. Heavy fighting around Petersburg. Capt. Holmes of the Marines and Lieuts. Gardner and Gregory of the Navy spent the day with us. In the evening we visited Capt. Butt of the "Nansemond." While we were on the "Nansemond," the Admiral signalled for the fleet to get under weigh and follow the motions of the flag ship. We returned on board the "Virginia," and found that Gen. Lee had met with a serious reverse and that Richmond was to be evacuated. We steamed up to the obstructions at Drewry's Bluff and anchored in them.

Monday 3rd.—

Blew up and sunk the fleet (except the wooden gunboats) in the obstructions at Drewry's Bluff last night. The blowing up of the "Virginia" was the most magnificent sight I ever saw. We steamed to Richmond in the wooden gunboats and reached the city a little after sunrise, landed on the Manchester side (South side) and set fire to the wooden gunboats. We found all the government buildings, workshops, arsenals &c., and all the bridges in flames. The last of our troops had just passed through. The arsenals were burning, the magazines exploding, and shell bursting and flying through the air, and Richmond presented a sad and terrible sight, though a grand and sublime one. We marched to the Danville Depot, and gathering up some old cars and locomotives that had been left behind, we 'fired up' with pailings and

fence rails, and started for Danville a few minutes after 8 A. M. carrying with us besides our own command several hundred sick soldiers and straglers. Our locomotives being old and worn out we made very slow time. We reached Amelia Court House a few hours before sunset. We saw a good many straglers on the way. While we were taking on wood and water at Amelia Court House a few stragling cavalymen came rushing in in a great scare, crying "Yankees," "Yankees." Our men all got their arms ready, and the stragling soldiers on the train jumped off and ran into the woods. But no Yankees appeared, and soon about 100 Yankee prisoners under guards came down the road. We travelled all day and all night. All along the road we were told that Yankee Cavalry was within a few miles, but we saw no Yankees and met with no difficulty. My Sergeant of Marines deserted to day.

Tuesday 4th.—

We travelled all day. Met with no accident. Reached Danville in the night. Remained on the cars all night. All the officers were required to stand guard around the cars to keep our men together.

Wednesday 5th.—

Admiral Semmes' command were organized into a brigade and put into the army. We were placed in charge of the batteries opposite Danville, on the North Side of the River Dan.

Thursday 6th.—

Slept in our new camp last night. No news from Gen. Lee yet. The President and Cabinet are in Danville. Every one seems to be very low-spirited.

Friday, 7th.—

Bad rumours from Gen. Lee. Rumours of a defeat to his army.

Saturday 8th.—

Captain Dennington with whom I am tenting is quite sick to day. No positive information from Gen. Lee. Our brigade has been organized into two regiments of five companies each. I am Adjutant of the 1st regiment and Lieut. Roberts of Marines is adjutant of the 2nd.

Sunday 9th.—

News came to-day that Gen. Lee had surrendered his whole army. The President and his cabinet are terribly demoralized. Every one seems to have given up completely.

1865.

April,

Monday 10th.—

I am very sick to day. The President and cabinet left Danville to-day.

Tuesday 11th.—

Many stragglers from Gen. Lee's army are passing through. No efforts whatever are being made to reorganize them. Was sent to the Hospital to-day.

Wednesday, 12th.—

We commenced falling back from Danville to day. Saw my brigade moving through the town from the Hospital window. Got one of the attendants to carry my baggage for me and walked down to the bridge and got into one of the ambulances of my brigade as they were crossing. I am very weak but the fever has left me, Capt. Dunnington is along and still quite sick.

Thursday 13th.—

We camped a few miles from Danville last night. Capt. Dunnington and I slept on the floor of a negro hut. The negro woman helped cook our rations for us. We were quite comfortable, considering that we were in a negro hut surrounded by negro children. We were sent to the Hospital in Greensborough to day. We reached Greensborough late in the evening the cars having travelled very slowly. We went to the Naval Store House and spreading our blankets on the floor spent the night along with several other Naval officers.

1865.

April,

Friday 14th.—

The President and Cabinet are in Greensborough and are terribly demoralized. They seem to have given up entirely and to be running for their lives. Gen. Johnston's army has evacuated Raleigh and is moving on this place and Charlotte. The Yankee Gen. Stoneman has cut the Rail Road between here and Charlotte. Saw Captain Tatnall, Lts. Graves and Thompson of the Marine Corps. They are stationed here.

Saturday 15th.—

Capt. Dunnington and I got an order from the Mallory yesterday to go wherever we pleased (or in other words to take care

of ourselves the best way we could) until we recovered and report to him at Charlotte or wherever the Government might be. All the Quartermaster's and Commissary Stores of the army and Navy are being distributed as they were in Danville. Another sign that our cause has now become hopeless. We staid with Lieut. Thomson in his room at a private house last night. We have been messing with the Marine mess since we came here. We are very kindly invited to-day by Dr. Dick (who was Chief Engineer of the Fredericksburg) to his mother's. She has a beautiful place, and we found her to be a very hospitable and kind old lady. She has two unmarried daughters living with her, the younger one being quite pretty. We got a barrel of flour and one of pork from the Navy Store house and sent them up to Mrs. Dick's. Mr. Dick's brother a lieutenant in Lee's army is also at home. We have a good comfortable room and I think we will soon recover now.

Sunday 16th.—

Gen. Johnston's army has commenced arriving, Admiral Semmes' brigade has not yet arrived from Danville, Capt. Dunnington has commenced to improve. I am still very weak. The President and Cabinet left for Charlotte on horse-back yesterday afternoon, except the Secre. of War who travels with the army. He was with Gen. Lee until he surrendered. Gen. Johnston's army is in very good condition, but I am afraid when they see the straglers from Gen. Lee's army and hear how our government is acting that they will become demoralized too. Capt. Dunnington and I intend to stay together until we get well and try to go through to Alabama together if the Government has broken up.

Monday 17th.—

Gen. Lee's youngest son Robert, my classmate at the University of Virginia, who escaped at the surrender of the army and came by way of Lynchburg reached here last Saturday and went to see the President and asked him what he must do. The President told him with tears in his eyes to go back to Virginia and give up. The stores are still being distributed. Saturday a part of Wheeler's Cavalry broke into some of the houses containing stores belonging to the Confederate States and the State of North Carolina, having run over the guard who were reserves, they were helping themselves when a detachment of Cook's and Lane's North Carolina gathering up deserters, were ordered up to disperse the cavalry. They fired on the cavalry killing and wounding several. The cavalry retreated threatening vengeance, but they did not

come back any more. Gov. Smith of Va. made a strong Southern speech Saturday counselling Guerilla warfare; but his speech was received with scarcely any demonstration of feeling at all. One drunken man got up a faint cheer.

Tuesday 18th.—

Many wild rumours afloat. Some say that Gen. Johnston is going to surrender his army. He has certainly gone out to have a meeting with Gen. Sherman. Every one seems to be impressed with the belief that the war is over. I am improving rapidly. Saw Dr. Carrington to day. We left him behind in Richmond, and he came out with Gen. Lee's army, and made his escape when it was surrendered.

Wednesday 19th.—

A most beautiful day. Read an Order from Gen. Johnston, saying that pending negotiations between the two governments the two armies would remain in 'statu quo', &c. Col. Holcombe of the 17th Ala. and Lt. McIntyre and Qr. Mr. Sergt. McClelland of the same regiment came to see me to day. Reliable information came to-day that President Lincoln had been killed and Mr. Seward and his son wounded in the theatre at Washington, supposed to be by some of Moseby's Men. I regret it very much and think it very unfortunate that it should have happened at this juncture. I am fully satisfied now that the war is about over. So after four years of bloodshed and sacrifice we are compelled to give up our high aspirations for a great and glorious Southern Confederacy, and will have to come back into the old Union. 'The ways of Providence are inscrutable' and I hope that it will prove for the best. Admiral Semmes' brigade has come up and is now encamped several miles from here. Several officers and many men deserted from the brigade on the march from Danville to this place. Two Lieutenants from our ship were among the number. We await coming events with anxious hearts.

Thursday 20th.—

No news to-day. I am still improving in health.

Friday 21st.—

No news to-day. Heard Gov. Vance and Gen. Walthall make short addresses this evening. They said that the war was over. Gov. Vance said that the Confederacy would yet be independent, and counselled the soldiers that when they were sent home to go home in a quiet and orderly manner and be good citizens &c. Their

speeches, though acknowledging that we had been compelled to give up and return into the Union, were rather encouraging than otherwise. They thought that we would come back into the Union and be just like we were before the war. I am afraid that they are rather too sanguine. I shall be very much surprised if we get such terms.

Saturday 22d.

Nothing new to-day. Every body expects to go home in ten days. I have been reading to day a very interesting life of Sir Humphry Davy. Since there is a prospect of peace, my mind has become very unsettled with regard to my plans for the future. I will first advise with my parents and friends and then hoping that kind Providence will direct me I will make my choice. Now when they are lost and gone I mourn bitterly over the mispent years of my youth. I am still young and if I will quit all my bad habits and worship God, He will aid me to become a great and noble man.

Sunday 23rd.

A beautiful day. No news of importance. Gen. Johnston made a speech last evening. He said that President Davis was trying to make a peace for us, and that the negotiations would be concluded in about 16 days &c.

Monday 24th.—

Clear and beautiful. Nothing reliable to day. We have concluded to go to Lexington to-morrow. Lieut. Thomson of Marines tried to persuade us to join his party and go through with him by land. He has a wagon and provisions in abundance, but as we did not know how things were going to turn out we could not accept his invitation, I have been reading for the last week — Heazlitt's Lectures on Poetry and a life of Sir Humphry Davy—and Addison's Spectator.

Tuesday 25th.—

Clear and beautiful. We went to the Depot at 9 A. M. and tried to go to Lexington, but after waiting until near 4 o'clock without being able to get off we returned. Gen. Sherman notified Gen. Johnston yesterday that hostilities would be resumed at 12 o'clock tomorrow. It is reported that Gen. Johnston went to meet Gen. Sherman this evening for the purpose of prolonging the armistice.

April**Wednesday, 26th.**

An order has been issued for the army to commence falling back at 11 A. M. to day. Admiral Semmes moved his command into Greensboro' about 10 A. M. and as he passed Mrs. Dick's house, we joined him. We moved on nearly through town and were halted an hour or two in a beautiful grove. The remnant of my old regiment, the 17th Ala. was with us, under command of Lieut. Col. Holcombe. We received orders to go into camp in this grove that a further cessation of hostilities had been agreed upon. We selected a beautiful camp just beyond the suburbs of town and settled down quietly, anxiously awaiting the progress of events.

Thursday, 27th.

Gen. Johnston issued an order to day, announcing that an agreement had been entered into between himself and Gen. Sherman that the forces under his command were no longer to oppose the U. S. Armies, but were to be marched to their states and there disbanded, and to go to their homes, and there remain not to be disturbed in person or property, and that all public property would be turned over to officers appointed by Gen. Sherman to receive it &c. This step was considered necessary by the whole army. It being generally conceded that it was useless to protract the struggle any longer. Capt. Dunnington went to Lexington this evening to see his friend Mr. Scixas. Admiral Semmes has formed a party to go through to Ala. consisting of himself and son and two Marine Orderlies, Capt. Dunnington who is going to his brother's in Shelby County, Ala. Mr. Shippey who is going with Capt. Dunnington. Dr. Peck who lives in Greensborough, Ala., Capt. Wilson (with a servant) who will lead us in Geo to go to Florida, and myself. We have a good four horse wagon & four good mules, and plenty of provisions and forage, and will ride our own horses. We all got horses when we were organized into a brigade to serve with the army at Danville. Some of the horses were Gov't horses, and the Admiral pressed the others from private persons.

April, Friday, 28.

Remained in Camp all day. Nothing now. Saw Gen. Sherman's order announcing the agreement between himself and Gen. Johnston. It was a very conciliatory order.

Saturday, 29th.

Beautiful day. Gen. Sherman's officers and commissioners are expected in Greensboro' today. Went to the depot in the evening to hear the news and wonderful to tell the agent gave us a sack of corn to feed our horses with.

Sunday, 30th.

Gen. Sherman's officers are in Town. They are quartered in private houses throughout the city. Visited Mrs. Dick's family in the evening. Spent a few minutes very pleasantly with the young ladies.

May. Monday 1st.

We all received our parols to day. Our party left Greensborough at 2 P. M. and went to Jamestown, 11 miles & camped for the night.

Tuesday, 2d.

Went three miles beyond Lexington making 28 miles to day. Capt. Dunnington joins us at Lexington. Dined to day in company with Capt. Dunnington with Mr. Scixas at Lexington. Camped three miles beyond Lexington. Met a Dr. Dusenberry in Lexington, who was very kind and polite to us.

Wednesday, 3rd.

Took up our line of march at 6½ A. M. Crossed the Yadkin River on the Rail Road bridge. Passed through Salisbury where we stopped two or three hours to have some of our horses shod. While in Salisbury, I had a very severe chill and high fever. Had to ride in the wagon. Went 5 miles beyond Salisbury, and camped for the night, making 15 miles we travelled to day. Dr. Peck got me a nice bed in a widow Lady's house close to our camp.

Thursday, 4th.

Had a good night's rest, & feel considerably better. Started at 6¼ A. M. and went into camp at 4¼ P. M. on the roadside, having gone a distance of 27 miles. Rode on my horse all day, feeling quite well. Crossed the Catawba River at Beatty's Ford.

May. Friday, 5th.

Broke camp at 6:30 A.M. Capt. Dunnington, Midshipman Semmes, Boatswain Seymour, and myself stopped at a Blacksmith shop ½ mile beyond our camp for a couple of hours to have our horses shod. We had to ride briskly to overtake our party. I had a severe chill before we overtook the wagon, and was quite

sick. Our party had stopped for dinner at a beautiful little stream near an iron mill. We went on a few miles farther after dinner. I was quite sick all the evening. About $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles before we reached Lincolntown, our wagon turned over, the whole load falling on me mashing and smothering me some but frightening me much more. We patched up our wagon, and went on a few miles further to a good camping ground. Dr. Peck got me a good bed for the night in a house close by. Dr. Peck has been very kind and obliging to me since I have been sick. This part of North Carolina looks like portions of Alabama.

Saturday, 6th.—

I am a great deal better this morning. We sent our wagon into Lincolntown at day light this morning to have the broken wheels repaired. Our wagon returned in the evening. Dr. Peck went into town and got me some quinine. Gen. Hardee with a small party passed us this evening. His wife and daughter were with him.

Sunday, 7th.—

It was clear and beautiful part of the day, and the rest of the day was cloudy and gloomy. I slept in camp last night and rested very badly. We started this morning at 5:20 A.M. and passing through Lincolntown, marched 26 miles, going into camp at 3:20 P. M. We caught up with Gen. Hardee on the road. Missed my chill to day. Took a great deal of quinine last night and this morning. Felt badly all day. I have eat very little for the last two days. The Cavalry and infantry of Johnston's Army have commenced overtaking us.

Monday, 8th.—

Cloudy and pleasant. Started from Camp at 5:30 A. M. and passing through Shelby, crossed 1st 2d, and Main "Broad Rivers", —1st Broad R. on a bridge and fording the other two branches. We crossed Main Broad River at Island Ford, and camped on the South Bank at Mrs. Hick's two miles from the S. Carolina line, having marched 24 miles during the day. Rode in the wagon nearly all day. Felt very weak all day.

Tuesday, 9th.

Dr. Peck and I staid all night with Mrs. Hicks. We had an excellent supper and were treated very kindly for which Mrs. Hicks would not receive any remuneration. Broke camp at 5:40 P. M. Passed into South Carolina after a short ride. I begin to

feel much better since getting into South Carolina. The air and country seem better to me. Passed through Fingerville, where there is a cotton factory. The North branch of the Paclet River passes through this place. We crossed it on a large bridge. The country and inhabitants improve as we advance. I am gradually improving in strength and health. Our wagon broke down at 11:45 A. M. having gone a distance of 13 miles. We halted to have our wagon repaired and get dinner. Fingerville is 11 miles from Island Ford. So far the Roads in South Carolina have been very bad. Went into camp for the night as it took longer to mend our wagon than we expected.

Wednesday 10th—

Staid last night with Capt. Wilkins, a very clever and kind gentleman, living a quarter of a mile beyond our camp. Our party passed Capt. Wilkins' at 6 A.M. I remained behind one hour to get breakfast. Rode fast and overtook the wagon in a few hours. Crossed two branches of the Tiger River and passed through Gowansville. Camped on the Banks of Ennoree River at Cobble's Mill, having gone a distance of 27 miles during the day.

Thursday, 11th.—

Staid with Capt. Cobble last night. He is a kind and hospitable gentleman. Left Camp at 6 A. M. and reached Greenville at 11 A. M. where we remained until 1 P. M. having our wheels repaired. Crossed Ready River at Greenville, and still farther on the Saluda River. Went into Camp about ten miles from Greenville at Mr. Clyde's. Rained very hard in the evening. Cleared off however by sunset.

Friday 12th—

Staid with Mr. Clyde last night—a very kind gentleman and an old school mate of Dr. Peck's. Left camp at 6 A. M. Reached Pendleton at 1 P. M. A beautiful and delightful little village. The Admiral rode a mile or two in the country to see a friend of his. He left Capt. Dunnington in charge and told him to go on to Carnsville, Geo. and wait for him there. We will reach Carnsville to-morrow evening. We stopped in Pendleton about an hour for dinner and to rest our horses. I had a nice dinner at a Mr. Sloan's. Marched about 7 miles from town and crossed the Seneca River, and went into camp about 5 P. M. The country around Pendleton is rich and beautiful; the people are wealthy and aristocratic. It is by far the most desirable portion of South Carolina that we have seen. Marched 27 miles today.

May—Saturday 13.

Slept in Camp last night. Started from Camp at 6 P. M. Crossed Tugals River, the dividing line between South Carolina and Georgia. Went 12 miles into Georgia and went into camp having gone 25 miles to day. Passed through a small village called Fairplay to day. Midshipman Semmes had a chill to day.

Sunday, 14.

Beautiful day. Midshipman Semmes and I staid with a Mr. McFarlam last night. Started from Camp at 6:30 A.M. Passed through Carnesville, Geo. 32 miles from Athens, and went into camp about 4:30 P. M. having gone a distance of 25 miles. We passed through a very poor country to day. But this has been the case along our whole route with a few beautiful exceptions. The most beautiful country we passed through was that around Pendleton South Carolina. I am still weak from my recent illness but am slowly improving.

May—Monday, 15.

Slept in Camp last night. Stoneman's Raiders have been a few days ahead of us ever since we left Lincolntown North Carolina. They were in Athens when last heard from. They left Athens a few days ago. They have been robbing and plundering all along their march, even after the armistice and suspension of hostilities East of the Chattahoochee. They are principally Kentuckians and Tennesseans. We passed through Athens to day. Crossed the East and West Oconee. The East Branch runs through the East Edge of Athens, and the West Branch three miles from the West Side of the Town. Passed through Watkinsville, and camped for the night in the village of Farmington. We were treated very kindly by the people of the village. Midshipman Semmes and I staid all night with Mr. Anderson. We marched 25 miles to day. Mr. Shippey left us to day when we crossed the West Oconee, on his way to England, intending to go by Savannah & see his father.

May—Tuesday 16.

Beautiful day. Left camp at 5:45 A.M. Passed through the beautiful village of Madison 14 miles from Farmington, 7 miles from Madison my horse took sick with colic. Stopped at a house on the roadside and got her drenched. Had to lead her as far as Madison, when I caught up with the wagon. A gentleman in

Madison bled her in the mouth for me, and she soon got better, and being led a short distance was well enough to ride again. Marched 12 miles from Madison and went into camp near Little River. Marched 26 miles to day.

Wednesday 17th—

Started from camp about 6 A. M. Passed through Monticello and Shady Dale and camped for the night in sight of the village of Gladeville, at 4:40 P. M. having gone a distance of 25 miles. Commenced raining hard just as we went into camp and continued until after dark. An overseer on a plantation gave us comfortable quarters in an unoccupied house.

May—Thursday 18.

The clouds have cleared away and the sun is out to day. Left camp at 6:40 A. M. The roads are quite muddy. Passed through Gladeville and marched to the Ocmulgee River 7 miles, crossed on a flat boat ferried over by two U. S. Soldiers. Found a small guard of U. S. cavalry under charge of a sergeant on the West Bank of the River. They were quite polite & respectful towards us and did not interfere with us. The Admiral showed his parol to the sergeant, who said that was sufficient he did not wish to see any more of our parols. Passed through the camp of a U. S. Cavalry Regiment three miles from the river. Passed through the village of Forsyth ten miles from the river. Marched four miles beyond Forsyth and went into camp. There is a small guard of U. S. soldiers in Forsyth. Rained hard to day while we were crossing the Ocmulgee, and for a few miles beyond. The U. S. soldiers have not interfered with us yet. They are a part of Wilson's Cavalry.

May—Friday, 19.

Left camp at 6:20 A. M. I rode in the wagon all day, being too sore to ride on horse-back. Passed through the village of Thomaston and marched 4 miles West of it and went into camp, having gone 26 miles to day. We halted nearly two hours in the middle of the day to have our wagon wheel repaired. Marched until nearly 6 P. M. before we went into camp. For the first time we were unable to get any milk, butter, or eggs any where near our camp.

Saturday, 20.

Left camp about 6 A. M. Passed through the villages of Pleasant Hill & Bellview, and crossed several large creeks to day. We have been mistaken to be Yankees all day on account of the Admiral's Naval uniform and shoulder straps, it being a very bluish grey color and blue pants. Went into camp about 5 P. M. a short distance from Waverly Hall, having marched 26 miles to day. Camped close to a grave-yard in an old field. Several elegant residences are in sight, forming almost a village. Tried to get some butter milk &c, but the people all thought we were Yankees and would let us have scarcely anything. Wilson's Raiders acted very badly all along this road that we are now travelling.

Sunday, 21.

Beautiful day. Started at 6:15 A. M. Passed through Waverly Hall. Capt. Wilson (who was on the Alabama with Armiral Semmes) left us a few miles beyond this place on his way to his home in Florida. Crossed a very large creek called Mulberry Creek. Marched to within five miles of the Chattahoochee River and went into camp, having gone 27 miles to day. It has been very warm all day, and the road has been quite rough and hilly, most of the time. Passed a gay picnic party of ladies and gentlemen, some of the ladies were very beautiful and most of the gentlemen seemed to be Confederates just returned from the War.

Monday 22.

I staid with Judge Dixon last night. He lives a few miles from the Chattahoochee. He and his wife treated us very kindly. They sent to our camp all the milk and butter and eggs they had and some chickens and honey and would not take any pay for them. We insisted however upon making his lady a present of some coffee. Left camp at 7 A. M. Crossed the Chattahoochee at Collins' ferry about 9 A. M. I am once more upon the soil of Ala. But how different are the circumstances from those under which I expected to return to my native state. It is very humiliating to think of our present condition, and I will try and think and speak of it as little as possible. We crossed the Chattahoochee into Chambers County. Passed through Berlin, and Opelika 18 miles from Berlin. Marched 3 miles South West of Opelika and went into camp in Russell County.

Tuesday, 23d.

A Beautiful day. Capt. Dunnington and Marine Orderly Keen left us this morning, on their way to their present homes in North Alabama. I was quite unwell yesterday and last night. Left camp a little past 6 A. M. Passed through Auburn and Tuskegee and went into camp about 3 miles from Tuskegee.

Wednesday 24th—

Another beautiful day. Left camp about 6 A.M. Marched through a beautiful country. Passed a Yankee Infantry Brigade on its way to Tuskegee. Passed through Cross Keyes near which place my old regiment the 17th Ala. went into camp of instruction in 1861—which camp we left in Nov. '61 and went to Pensacola under Bragg. Dr. Peck and I stopped a couple of hours at Col. Conrad Webb's. We dined with the family and had quite a pleasant visit. Miss Josephine my old friend and guardian sweetheart was not at home much to my disappointment, but was in Atlanta, Geo. on a visit. Miss Sallie her sister has been married for some time to Dr. George Judkins, though I did not know it. All the family seemed glad to see me. We reached our camp within about 5½ miles from Montgomery, after dark having made about 32 miles to day.

Thursday, 25th—

A beautiful day. Left camp about 6 A. M. Marched into Montgomery about 8 A. M. Passed through Yankee camps close to Montgomery—were arrested by a Yankee sentinel and carried to Brigade Head Quarters. A staff officer came out to see us and said that the officer of the guard had exceeded his instructions, and he consequently gave orders to the sentinel to pass us on. We found Yankee troops camped all through the city. When I reached the city I went to Uncle John Elmore's to leave my baggage, and found that he was living at the old place in Autauga, and that other people were living in his Montgomery house. Left my baggage in their charge, and went out to Uncle Bolling Hall's. On the way I met him and cousin Vince Elmore and Frank Hall. The Yankees have nearly ruined Uncle Bolling. I went on to his house and found all my cousins glad to see me. Crenshaw had reached home from the army. Miss Anna Grigg was staying with Cousin Laura.

Friday, 26th—

A beautiful day. Remained at Uncle Bolling's all day. Crenshaw and I visited Mrs. Laura Holt, his aunt, at her country place

one mile from Uncle Bolling's in the evening. Bolling came home to night.

Saturday, 27th—

Will Holt came over to see us today. Miss Anna Grigg went home yesterday evening. Remained at Uncle Bolling's all day. Saw a grand review of Carr's Yankee Division close to Uncle Bolling's to day. They did not make as soldierly an appearance as our division used to make in the Southern army.

Sunday, 28th—

Another beautiful day. Went in to the Catholic Church to day but not being able to get a seat, left and went to the Methodist, and heard an excellent sermon. There is no news afloat to day, every thing is as quiet and still as a Sabbath day ought to be. It is a lovely and pleasant day in the extreme. All seems to be depressed at the condition of our unhappy country.

Monday, 29th—

Started home to day. Went as far as Sandy Ridge 28½ miles from Montgomery and stopped for the night with a Mr. Williamson, a friend of Pa's and a very clever gentleman, who treated me with extreme hospitality and kindness. After supper he took me to see Squire Perry another friend of Pa's, and Mrs. Williamson the widow of his brother, and a daughter of Mrs. C. Webb of Macon. Passed the evening very pleasantly.

Tuesday 30th—

Started early for home. Passed through Forts Deposit and Dale. Got in company with a young Mr. Lloyd one mile from Fort Deposit and travelled in company with him as far as Fort Dale. He assisted me materially by carrying some of my baggage. We stopped in the middle of the day and took dinner with old Mr. Danile the north side of Fort Dale. The old man had a son in my company in the 17th Ala. (Fred Daniel) who enlisted in prison in U. S. Army to fight the Indians. Reached home before sunset. Found all well and glad to see me.

Wednesday, 31st—

My relatives and friends commenced coming in to see me to day. Jimmy Jones came up to stay with me a few days. We went over to Dr. Herbert's to day. I am in general bad health, feeling quite weak and unwell.

June, Thursday, 1st—

Jimmy and I moved into Pa's office in the yard to day, so as to have more room and to be more to ourselves. We are well fixed and have very pleasant quarters. Remained at home all day. Cousins Eliza Stevens and Emily Waters & Tommy Crenshaw came to see us to day. Tom carried them over to Uncle Tom's.

Friday 2d.

There is to be a grand picnic at Powers' bridge to day. Jimmie and I were too unwell to attend. Cousin Jim Womack came down from Greenville to see me to day. Tom, Bragg & Tip came down to go to the picnic. The picnic broke up early and they all went to Dr. George Herbert's and danced. Phil Waters & Frank Coleman came to see me to day. They all went to the Picnic & dance. Tom Bragg came back and staid all night with me. Cousin Sallie Lewis passed by to day on her way to her plantation.

Saturday 3rd—

Another Picnic to day at Ashcraft's Mill. Ma, Cousin Jim and all of us went. I enjoyed myself very much, but came home before they broke up. All came to our house in the evening and we had a dance and did not quit until after 12 o'clock. All of the girls in the neighborhood were there. Nearly all of the boys and girls staid all night with us.

Sunday, 4th—

Tip and Tom went back to Greenville to day and Jimmy Jones went over to Dr. Herbert's. Uncle Ed came to see me to day. Aunt Lucinda spent the evening with us.

Monday, 5th—

I did not rest well last night. Pa. went to Mr. McGeehee's last Saturday (near Montgomery) after a mule he left there, and returned with it last night. When the Yankees went through our neighborhood they took all his mules, and left him nothing to plough with. For three weeks his crop had no ploughing and he could not yet any mules or horses anywhere, and all of his negroes were on the place, none having left and they had to be supported for the year at least. So that he walked to Montgomery and made a representation of the facts to the Yankee General A. J. Smith, and told him he would have to give him stock to make a crop with or he would have to turn all of his negroes away and let them take care of themselves. Gen. Smith gave him **six** broken

down horses & mules, one of which he gave to a Mr. Seals to help him bring them home. But these broken down animals after he had gotten them home and fed them plentifully a few weeks, mended wonderfully, and turned out to be first rate animals, and made him a good crop. Though they did not near replace the eight splendid mules the Yankees took from him. Cousin Jim and I went to Uncle Tom's to day. Saw all the home folks and Cousin India who was there on a visit. I suffered all day with neuralgia in my right lower jaw. We returned home in the evening.

Tuesday, 6th—

Had to take morphine to make me sleep last night. Being no better this morning, I went over to Dr. Herbert's, and had the tooth that occasioned the pain, pulled. Cousin Jim started round on a little business trip in the neighborhood to day.

Wednesday, 7th—

Remained at home all day. Cousin Gus came to see me and remained until bed time.

Thursday, 8th—

Remained at home all day. Cousin Jim stopped a little while, on his way to Greenville.

Friday, 9th.

Remained at home to day. No one came to see me to day.

Saturday, 10th—

Remained at home to day—No visitors.

Sunday, 11th—

Uncle Ed & Tom were with us to day, and Dr. Herbert & family, also spent the day with us.

Monday, 12th—

Uncle Lewis and Dr. Herbert were here to day. Pa. made a contract to day with his freedmen to work with him the balance of the year for the support of themselves and families. Uncle Lewis and Dr. Herbert, and Charles Lewis (freedman) witnessed the contract. Jim and Maria were the only two who showed any unwillingness to sign the contract and both of them had parents on the place who were totally unable to support themselves and had done no work for years.

Tuesday, 13th—

Remained at home all day—No visitors—

Wednesday, 14th—

Uncle Fred and Grandma had a meet of their freedmen to day, and made substantially the same contract that Pa. made with his. Tip Womack and Tom Bragg came down from Greenville yesterday and staid all night with me. Two gentlemen (Dr. Cluck and Mr. Fountain) from Monroe County going from Montgomery with stock staid with us last night.

Thursday, 15th—

Remained at home all day—No visitors.

Friday, 16th—

Tom Bragg went home this evening. Remained at home all day.

Saturday, 17th—

Visited Mrs. Gregory, and Cousins Billy Coleman & Billy Wade to day. All were at home. I spent the day very pleasantly.

Sunday, 18th—

Uncle Tom went to Montgomery last week and returned yesterday. The Superintendent of Freedmen approved his contract with his freedmen. It was similar to Pa's. I went to Uncle Lewis Womack's in the evening.

Monday, 19th—

Staid at Uncle Lewis' last night, and until after dinner to day—Cousin Gus and his little Louis came down from Greenville before dinner. I went to Cedar Creek to fish in the evening. Got caught in a hard rain—Stopped in one of Pa's cotton houses in the field—The rain was very much needed by the farmers, and saved their corn crops they say—

At this point I closed my daily diary—the tenor of my life being so calm and even that I had nothing of interest to narrate for some months or more—and I did not wish to write down day after day the already oft repeated phrase “staid at home to day.”

POEMS

(The following poems were written by Alabama authors. "Unto The Hills," by Lucille Key Thompson, of Troy, has been awarded the first prize by the Alabama Poetry Society and was previously printed in "The Teacher." Other poems by Mr. Bert Henderson, of Montgomery, have appeared in former issues of the Quarterly. Poems by Shirley Dillon Waite, of Birmingham, and L. Jane Moses, of Anniston, have not previously appeared in this magazine.)

March Of The Toltecs

A Factual Legend on the Early Settlement of Alabama

Many centuries ago there lived
Upon the trackless plains of Mexico,
A tribe of peaceful Indians, Toltecs;
And as the meager records dimly show,
They played unconscious parts in history,
And proved the cornerstone on which was placed
The structure of a great and noble state.
Deep in the heart of Mexico was traced
The first installment of our heritage.

The Toltecs were agrarians, the land
They ably tilled gave ample sustenance,
And all were prosperous until a band
Of hostile tribes began to perpetrate
Atrocities upon their settlement:
To ravage fields and slaughter peaceful braves,
And ultimately seeds of discontent
Grew into fear, and so, when darkness came,
They started on a memorable march,
In search of other lands where they might claim
Some measure of security. Again
They formed a settlement and made their home.

They planted maize and carefully stored
The surplus grain. But the desire to roam
Made them again grow restless in their new
Habitation. So the High Priest set
A sensitive wand at the encampments edge,
And called the tribe together. When they met
They watched to see which way the wand would turn
To point the way. And then the chief unrolled
A folded blanket to release a white
And tiny dog which, barking, ran with bold
Assurance toward the northern edge of camp.
The braves thought this an omen, felt their way
Lay to the north, so once again they marched,
Following their tiny leader, night and day.

Countless leagues they traveled, north, then east
Across a river, now the Rio Grande;
Then to the east again they came upon
A river that no foot had ever spanned—
Called it "Mish-o-sip-Kani," meaning
"Greater than all else." Then with the dawn
They held a council, voting they would cross.

And so they built a tiny raft, and on
It placed their faithful guide, the tiny dog.
They lashed this to a larger raft, but when
The current caught them up the lashes fouled
That bound the smaller raft. Before the men
Could set their course again the dog was lost.
Some thought this, too, an omen, and declined
To march again, and on the farther bank
Founded the Natchez tribe. But still to find
Their ultimate destiny a faithful few
Pushed on into a verdant, fertile land.
And weary of their march and much impressed
By such fertility, the last command
Was given by the Priest. He stood beneath
A tall majestic oak and breathed this phrase:
"Alamamiu!" the meaning, "Here
We plant our crops and spend our future days."

Bert Henderson.

Dirge Out of Memory

I have seen eyes heavy with the grief
 Of a forgotten generation,
 And hearts wrung dry
 With brief for a lost cause;
 I have seen Greed bowing in supplication
 At the War-Lord's shrine,
 While brave men, weary from the long march,
 Pause,
 To buckle their sagging armor
 And strengthen the thinning line.
 I spoke with one in fear of torment
 Who cast his sword aside—
 Divested—in that moment—
 Of all habiliments of pride.
 I have walked through a wall of shadows
 Black as a hangman's room,
 As it wrapped its folds about a world
 Sick with threatened doom,
 While anguish stalked a battlefield
 Riddled by shot and shell,
 And thunder filled the distance
 Like the final crash
 Of hell!

Shirley Dillon Waite.

* * * * *

Night Gossip

The Moon while courting Night
 Escapes to run,
 Holds high his lips in broad eclipse
 To blushing Sun.
 And then tonight, he's dressed in white!
 The Stars have nothing to say,
 They know he flirts;
 They only wag their pointed skirts
 And turn away.

.....

I guess if I blew my candle light,
 He'd come a'courting me tonight!

L. Jane Moses.

In Dreamless Sleep

In dreamless sleep she lies so still—
When vagrant shadows cross the sill
 And softly touch her eyes and hair,
 She does not stir or seem to care
That this be either good or ill.

I know an April-petaled hill
Abloom with golden daffodil—
 Solt couch for one divinely fair
 In dreamless sleep.

Bend down, O Sky, and watch until
The stars come out and nights are chill;
 O murmurous wind, blow gently there,
 And feathered songster have a care—
She waits the silent miracle,
 In dreamless sleep.

Shirley Dillon Waite.

* * * * *

Unto The Hills

The mountains are like praying giants at night,
When high above the pandemonium
Of modern restlessness, the smoky light
From furnace fires reveals their requiem.
And, even as insatiate flames consume
Their sacrifice, these kneeling giants remain
Impervious alike to light and gloom.
And thus may I, their dignity attain
When altar flames burn low with lost desire,
Remembering the sheltered pilgrimage
To distant hills, where strength and peace inspire
The beggared heart with humble heritage.
Against the threat of ultimate despair,
My heart shall be continually in prayer.

Lucille Key Thompson.

BOOK REVIEWS

Finland Forever by Hudson Strode. Harcourt, Brace and Company. \$3.50.

Hudson Strode's *Finland Forever* is fierce in its partisanship and admiration for the heroic peoples of Finland. Its emphasis on spiritual values comes as a sort of "metaphysical shot in the arm" (to borrow a phrase Mr. Strode attributes to Sibelius) in an age that batters high heaven with such clichés as "realistic point of view," "wishful thinking" and "mechanized world." The book will find a deservedly large and enthusiastic audience.

Finland Forever contains brilliant and finely styled reporting: of geography, of economics, of arts, of Finnish history and ethnology. Episodes are fast-moving. Human-interest situations and stories of travel draw the reader rapidly forward. Much of the actual sociological content of the book is already familiar to many readers, for Finland's economy was an agriculturist's Utopia in many respects and, as such, widely publicized in the United States. But the dramatically human manner in which Mr. Strode presents his material makes it entirely new.

He presents all sorts and conditions of men, individuals and types. The American heroes Sibelius and Paavo Nurmi appear, surrounded respectively by photographers' light bulbs and deep layers of gloom. Universal figures like the patriarchal squire are also there, the well-to-do business man, the inn keeper, the ship's master, the tourist. And with each presentation the point is made perfectly clear that each citizen of Finland is burning with a patriotism that comes only with generations of social oppression finally crowned by an era of well being. The heroic *Kalevala* is taken as seriously in Finland as a Confederate sword in the South. But throughout the book, like a bell to toll one back to reality, runs the refrain "There will be no war." Although he landed in Finland only four months before the Red invasion and only two months before the destruction of Poland, Mr. Strode received constant reassurance. There would be no war, said the chambermaid at the Helsinki hotel. So said Brotherus of the Foreign Office and "the remarkable Miss Kuohi," inn keeper extraordinary. So

said the English and German tourists. Ominously, however, the building of the Mannerheim Line continued, with young men and women giving their vacations to build the fortification against hated Russia. Suddenly, war breaks.

"Finland Rebuilds" is the final chapter of the book. In it Mr. Strode keeps to the spiritual emphasis of his other chapters by describing the intrepidity of the Finnish character in rebuilding his country, so utterly demolished and so utterly without assurance of future inviolability. "'The game is not finished yet,' doggedly declared the old man of Huljava, though he had only two cards left, both deuces and neither of them a trump." That old man typifies all of Finland, according to Hudson Strode.

—Emily Calcott.

Backtracking in Barbour County by Anne Kendrick Walker. The Dietz Press. \$3.75.

Anne Kendrick Walker is fundamentally a person concerned with the tremendous trifles of living, nineteenth-century living in particular. This is not to say that *Backtracking in Barbour County* is a series of frothy essays. The book is a serious history of Barbour County from its beginnings to the present, and the author deals adequately with her subject. She has examined many documents in order to present such stirring Barbour events as the Indian conquests by John Lingard Hunter and William Wellborn; Henry Russell Shorter's tragic term as governor; the capture of Jefferson Davis by Wilson's Raiders; the bloody victory over Scalawag Kiels and his gang; the beginnings of Alabama's road system under Lieutenant-Governor Charles McDowell. Many important and dramatic events took place in Barbour County and the author writes of them with romantic enthusiasm.

But the quality that lends the book its peculiar charm is her anecdotal and often humorous style. This, added to her profound interest in the people she is writing about, makes *Backtracking* much more than just another county history. Miss Walker has not only examined less formal source books—letters, diaries, account books and such like—but has visited villages and homes and knows her numerous characters practically by their first names, not to mention those of their sisters and their cousins and their aunts. The reader learns at once geographical origins of a Barbour family,

the peculiar aptitudes of each member of the family and—sometimes and discreetly—which were happily married.

One learns too that Irwinton's Ante-Bellum Athenaeum subscribed to thirty-five magazines and newspapers, including the impeccable *British Review* and *Gentleman's Magazine* as well as the more giddy *Blackwood's*. That in Clio the Yankees placed a protective guard around the house of a woman who had waved a Masonic apron. That the *Eufaula Times and News* was delighted with Buffalo Bill's first local appearance and particularly pleased with the defined appearance of the cowgirls. That citizens of the same town counted it a real step toward progress when J. Konski, "a Polander", opened the first good barber shop on the ground floor of the Chewalla House. That Mrs. Davis's goldfish and Dr. Copeland's leaches froze solid in the big freeze of 1880, and that everybody was greatly relieved when the latter thawed out. That when Mrs. Fournoy asked the Bishop if he would have a little weak toddy for refreshment after his long trip, the Bishop looked her sternly in the eye and demanded why little and why weak.

Truly it is a "picturesque and lovable countryside" that Miss Walker guides the reader through and an equally picturesque and lovable race of people that she presents. The volume is enriched with many photographs of people and things—old maps, historic dwellings, churches, tombstones. The volume should prove of absorbing interest both to south Alabamians and to any general reader who is concerned with the bloom of life in the nineteenth century.

—Emily Calcott.

Cottonmouth by Julian Lee Rayford. Scribners. \$2.75.

This is a novel dealing with life in Mobile during recent times, as seen through the eyes of young Paul Brewster, artistic, sensitive son of a railroad engineer.

Paul's ambitious, restless mother, his five brothers and their Creole cook, Nanny, are a household of vigorous, well defined individuals who do not let their constant battle against poverty dull their sense of enjoyment of life. These Brewsters are a sturdy folk, ready to defend each other and always loyal to their family in spite of brotherly bickerings among themselves. Particularly appealing is Nanny, whose sole outlet for her affections lies in the

loving service she gives to Mrs. Brewster and the boys. She has an understanding and an appreciation of his nature which enable her to influence him, and her instructions in ethics are refreshing unconventional as well as salutary.

Mr. Rayford shows us pictures of other associates of Paul, each clearly and economically drawn, but his book is not primarily a story of characters. Mobile, rather than Paul himself, is its protagonist. The city is so familiar to him that he is able to give *Cottonmouth* a flavor and atmosphere that are unique, and after one has finished reading it a series of vivid sketches lingers in the mind—the tawny river running beside the town, nearby swamps teeming with animal and reptilian life, Mardi Gras parades, Sunday school parties, and many other characteristic events. There are tales of feuds between Paul's gang and negro delivery boys, of Creole superstitions, of sandlot ball games, of stolen rides to Montgomery and other places to see the home team play.

Cottonmouth is a novel without a love story, but it is not missed, because there are many other romantic adventures of adolescence in this saga of a youth's discovery of his world. Like most autobiographical fiction, it lacks a well constructed plot. There is also some confusion in chronological order. These faults, however, are counterbalanced by the skill with which the author portrays Mobile—"a town like the quick vanishing face at a window—a town not quickly grasped by the newcomer—a town asleep—but seething in dreams, and full of heroes—and great figures tramping its swamps—stealing down its River—passing over its Bay." Mr. Rayford with his artist's sense of significant detail has written a worth while first novel. He has revealed a fresh and vital talent, from which more may be expected in the future.

—Margaret Gillis Figh.

GENEALOGICAL DEPARTMENT QUERIES

Caswell Rice Clifton married, supposedly in Madison County, between 1839 and 1843, Elizabeth Mason Dancy. Marriage record and names of parents of both wanted. The latter's father is supposed to have been David Dancy. Miss Marybelle Delmar, Box 305, Raleigh, N. C.

Elizabeth Gayle and Dr. Jabez Wiggins Heustis were married in Dallas County. The license is dated November 3, 1825. In the obituary of her son, Dr. James F. Heustis, of Mobile, she is given as Elizabeth Swepson Gayle. Who were her parents? Mr. George H. Clark, 213 Clark Bldg., Birmingham.

Information about John Walker, Tandy Walker, William Hughes and Beverly Hughes, all of Lawrence, Limestone, Morgan and Madison Countys. Mrs. Grace T. Leshner, 1107 Fourteenth St., Modesto, Calif.

Information about Joseph Leach who left Alabama in 1830 and died in Connersville, Indiana, in 1840. Mrs. James M. Todd, Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Grandfather Stephen Joseph Lester, born in Louisville, Ky., in 1811, moved to Alabama while a child. Two brothers, William H. and A. J. One sister, Sarah. Any information desired. Dr. W. S. Lester, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Winchester, Ky.

William Mace Lewis wrote from Moulton, Lawrence County, in 1832, that he was a member of the firm of Coopwood, Lewis and Company. He had a brother Robert at Mooreville. He also stated that he was to marry Laura Dent in November. Later letters refer to him as Gen. Mace Lewis. Meriwether L. Lewis, 511 Boscobel St., Nashville, Tenn.

Oliver Hopwell Crittenden married Mary Ida Baylis. His father, B. F. Crittenden married Elizabeth Owens, while his grandfather, L. B. Owens married either A. A. Weathers or Annie Hale. Information on this line desired. Mrs. Arthur Naylor, 417 Neches, Palestine, Texas.

Benjamin Franklin Price was born in 1816 and lived in Calhoun County. He married Merinah Clift in 1832. He had eleven sons and one daughter. They went to Texas in 1852, leaving only one son, Bluford Price, in Alabama. He died in a hospital in Richmond, Va., February 14, 1865. Names of descendants wanted. S. P. Price, Box 908, Vicksburg, Miss.

Ancestors of William Rufus Privett who lived in Alabama. Mrs. W. E. Brockbank, 413 East Center St., Spanish Trail, Utah.

Any information about the Revlett family in Alabama. Leonard Davis, Drakesboro, Ky.

LATER HISTORY OF MADISON COUNTY

By Thomas Jones Taylor

(This installment concludes the History of Madison County, by Judge Taylor.)

Chapter VIII.

Removal of the Indians.

Before entering into the history of New Madison, dating from the great land sales of 1830, I hope that an article upon our first neighbors, the original owners as far as we know of the beautiful valley of the Tennessee, will not be inappropriate. I refer to the Cherokees and Chickasaws, who while they did not actually occupy any of the county away from the river, yet by agreement as far into the past as tradition reaches made the line between the two nations to meet somewhere near the present Cherokee or New Madison line, and as I have already stated, Old Madison was a debatable ground that the government obtained by treaty with both nations. Our people came but little in contact with the Chickasaws after the year 1817. This tribe, once powerful and warlike, at the beginning of the century owned all the territory between the waters of the Ohio and the Tennessee and the Mississippi southward to the great bend of the Tennessee and South of the Tennessee from about Chickasaw Island to the Creek line, and thence westward to the Mississippi above Natchez. The treaty of 1817 gave the United States all their territory in Alabama, except Colbert's reservation and some smaller reservations on the Tennessee, and they soon afterwards removed beyond the limits of Alabama, so that in the year 1830 the Tennessee valley west of Madison county had been occupied by white settlers formed into counties, and was a flourishing portion of the state. In the year 1836 the remaining portion of this once flourishing tribe with the exception of a few scattering settlements in Mississippi, crossed the Mississippi and occupied their present domain. At first, they occupied that territory in common with the Choctaws, a nation of the same origin and speaking the same language, but the two

tribes finally separated into two distinct nations and both tribes have made great advance in civilization and prosperity.

When the English first came to the Carolinas the Cherokees were one of the most prosperous and powerful tribes on the continent. In the year 1730 just one century before the sale of their remaining lands in the State of Alabama, they acknowledged allegiance to and made a treaty of peace with the English. This treaty was often broken by both sides, and hostilities between the whites and Indians were frequent. The Cherokees occupied the Alleghany ridge and as far Eastward as the head waters of Flint and Savannah rivers, their territory including portions of Tennessee, the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, and their geographical position, in itself, gave them but little hope of permanent possession. The Cherokees were a superior race of aborigines, and before the beginning of the present century their sagacious leaders were looking westward for a land of promise. About the year 1800 three thousand of them went west of the Mississippi and formed the nucleus of the future nation on the head waters of the Washita. The Indians on the head waters of the Flint and Savannah made great advances in civilization and when Madison county was ceded some of them were large slave owners and extensive planters. Many white men had intermarried in the tribe and settled among them, schools had been established, and great interest was manifested in education. But the Indians among the mountains had an intense love for their native valleys and steadily opposed all projects for removal, and discountenanced all departures from the old hunting life of their fathers. Thus originated the two parties whose feuds afterwards resulted in the violent death of some of the wisest and best of their leaders.

In the year 1818 another large body of the tribe went west of the Mississippi, and the question of removal was continually agitated until their emigration was finally consummated in the year 1836. Soon after the settlement of Charleston, South Carolina, a large number of Scotch emigrants came to the state on account of religious persecution and political dissensions in the old country. Many of this colony became Indian traders and married Indian wives, and became influential men in their councils. Of this number, Alexander McGilvary, the great chief of the Creeks, became most famous, and he was in many respects the most remarkable man of the time. But many of less fame pushed their way towards

the bend of the Tennessee and came into Madison County with the early settlers, and located on the Indian side of the boundary line. Among these were Capt. John Woods, the Wilsons, Shephens, McDuffs, McNairys and McNuttys, who, from a desire to live among civilized people, came and settled in Madison and the adjoining counties on the reservation that still bear their names. Conalesky, an Indian Chief, also located in the county, and when he became civilized, he called himself John Challenge and lived for a long time on Challenge reservation in Sharp's Cove. When the Creek war of 1813 broke out the Creeks tried very hard to persuade the Cherokees to join in a coalition against the whites, but in vain. The Cherokees were too well acquainted with the power of the whites, and when they found the Creeks would not allow them to remain neutral they declared war against the Creeks and took part in Jackson's victorious campaign. By the treaty of 1818, that made the cession of their lands in New Madison, each Indian or half-breed who wished to remain within the limits of the ceded territory was allowed to retain one section of land with his house as near the center of the track (sic) as practicable, and reservations of this character were remained by the Indians and half-breeds already mentioned. But as the Indians gradually disappeared from our proximity these parties also became dissatisfied, and all of them in Madison county, holding these reservations, disposed of their lands by sale or relinquishment, and crossed the Mississippi with the remainder of the tribe in 1836. By treaty, the Indians also reserved a track twelve miles square, to be disposed of on the same terms as government lands, and the proceeds of sale to go to their educational fund. This track comprised all of New Madison south of Keel's Mountain, and also parts of Jackson and Marshall counties. There remains unsold about ten thousand acres of this land which belongs to the Cherokees, and is the last remnant of the vast and rich domain which they once possessed East of the Mississippi. The Cherokees moved southwardly until they all had gone South of the river, and occupied a small portion of north eastern Alabama.

The larger proportion of the tribe East of the Mississippi was concentrated in the State of Georgia. This portion of the tribe was divided into two factions, the party headed by Ross, who opposed removal, and the party of Ridge and Boudinot, who favored it, and their differences delayed the question for many years.

There had never been any great cordiality between these Indians and the Georgia people, and the Georgians were very anxious for their removal from their borders, and persecuted them with a great deal of unfriendly legislation. While the State declined to recognize their rights as citizens, yet it extended the laws of the State over their territory. While it claimed the right to try them in court, yet it denied them the right to testify, and their condition was becoming desperate. They sent a deputation to Washington, and while they received many expressions of sympathy from those in power, yet they were informed that the government had no power to right their wrongs. As a consequence removal became inevitable and even John Ross, the ablest and wisest of their leaders, was impelled by the circumstances to sign the treaty of removal. The government appropriated one million dollars for indemnity and expenses of removal and furnished each family with one year's subsistence in the new territory. We can but sympathize with their remnant of a brave and high spirited nation, who reluctantly bade final farewell to their native mountain home and turned their faces westward towards the level lands of Western Arkansas. How they must have missed the mountain crags and beautiful coves of the Tennessee!

In the year 1836 General Scott, with two thousand troops, was detailed to remove them, and on a beautiful morning of spring all Madison County was in motion to see the Indians. Hundreds of children born in the county had never seen an Indian, and in their line of travel from one end of the county to the other an eager throng awaited them. And presently the melancholy procession appeared. There were carriages and wagons of every kind, horses, mules, donkeys, and dogs, all turned into beasts of burden. Besides the numerous vehicles loaded with travellers, there was a long procession of men, women and children bearing all kinds of burdens peculiar to a household. When they came to Flint River above Brownsboro, they rested two or three days, and the place can still be pointed out where they buried some of their number who fell by the wayside. Of all processions that ever passed through our midst this was the most tragic, and I have heard many spectators aver that the expression of the silent sorrow of their heart, depicted in their movements and faces, haunted them for many months. They marched on towards the setting sun and the pageant was over, and when they crossed the Chickasaw

boundary, six miles West of Huntsville, they bid a final farewell to their ancient domain, and entered into a land of dangers.

There were many wealthy men and large slave-holders both among the Cherokees and Chickasaws, and both sides sympathized with the South. But after the war commenced the Ross party returned to its allegiance, while the Ridge party fought through the war in the Southern armies. Their country was subject to all the evils of partisan warfare and the tribe suffered severely. The war closed, their slaves were free, and while the government interposed in behalf of the Ridge party that adhered to the South, to prevent their banishment and the confiscation of their property, yet it compelled the Cherokees to cede to the general government about seven million acres of land, at the rate of four and a half cents an acre, which purchase money they gave them the alternative of seeing donated to their former slaves to citizenship, and the Indians took the latter alternative.

Having made this brief diversion, I now propose to take up the history of the settlement of New Madison from 1830, the year of the land sales.

Chapter IX.

New Madison.

The name of Old Madison, as used by our fathers, applied both to the original county formed in 1808 and to the southwest or Triana portion added from the Chickasaw nation in 1818. The Indians owned New Madison until 1819. Though it had been ceded a year or two before, yet it was not until 1818 that the United States entered formally into possession of the New Territory and surveyed out the Indian reservation and the twelve miles square line, and several years elapsed before even this was all accomplished. The history of the settlement of New Madison and the characteristics of the settlers differed as much from the settlement of Old Madison as the physical features of the two sections were dissimilar. A large proportion of the area of the old county consisted of level, fertile lands, offering an inviting field for the location of large plantations, while New Madison was broken, and there were but few locations suitable for the opening of extensive

farms. The ranges of mountains extending through it from north to south, with lateral ridges or spurs dividing a great portion of its area into valleys and coves, through which generally ran streams of pure water tributary to Flint river, made it eminently fitted in every respect for the location of small farms and these peculiar characteristics made it essentially a region settled by a white non-slaveholding population. During the settlement of Old Madison cotton commanded a high price, and farming with slave labor was highly remunerative, and the lands were sold at exorbitant rates. But cotton had steadily declined in value, and after the flush times and the wild speculation of 1818 and '19 a reaction had taken place and prices had steadily tended downward. A large proportion of the capital that had come into Old Madison had been invested in land at ruinous rates, and men who had invested extensively had lived to see their dreams of a golden future dissipated by the decline in price of their great staple, and many of them were involved in financial difficulties from which they were not extricated until federal legislation afforded them relief. There were a few men who had weathered the storm and were wise enough to foresee that if they could obtain the public lands at reasonably low rates in the future they would reap a golden harvest, and they organized into the ring of speculators against whom the body of actual settlers in the new county were pitted in purchasing their lands. Many small farmers came into the county at this time from Tennessee and Georgia prospecting for permanent homes, and there were a large number of old citizens of the county who, by thrift and industry, had accumulated a small capital that they wished to invest in permanent homes in the new territory. At the land sales of 1809 and 1818 persons of this class had been out-bidden by speculators, and many of them had lost their homes because they were not able to pay the exorbitant prices paid for the land by the capitalists, and while from the conformation of the country and difference in its financial condition the evil would not have been so serious if New Madison had been put on the market in a more prosperous era, yet the tendency of federal legislation and of public opinion rendered it impossible that the early settlers on these lands should be treated with the injustice that deprived John Hunt and others of their homesteads at the sales of 1809. While no blame can attach to the early settlers who saw proper to bid high prices for valuable government lands, and while it was a great misfortune to many that they were too poor to

compete with the capitalists for lands they had settled and improved, yet the many cases of hardship it entailed were calculated to create a prejudice against the wealthy and array the poor against the rich.

Before the year 1829 the administration had been composed of men principally from the Atlantic coast, who although wise and patriotic yet were not so fully in sympathy with the masses as their successors. The tide of emigration south and west and the admission of many new and prosperous States in the Union placed the reins of government under the control of men who had lived and moved and prospered with the people of the new States, and the movement took the form and spirit that resulted in the wise legislation that has done so much to prevent monopoly in control of the public domain and to guarantee cheap homes to actual settlers. Thomas H. Benton was the first great champion of preemption in the halls of congress. From his election to the United States Senate he devoted his attention to effecting a change in the land laws, by which the actual settlers on the public domain could have the privilege of retaining his lands at the minimum price fixed by the government, and also to procure the passage of a law graduating the price of public lands, so that their price should be reduced in proportion to the time they had been on the market without a purchaser. The elevation of General Jackson to the presidency in the year 1829 placed a ruler in power who was in full sympathy with him, and soon after his inaugural General Jackson earnestly recommended the passage of the preemption law to congress, and the law was enacted.

In the year 1829 C. C. Clay was elected to congress from this district, and no man in congress worked more actively and zealously in pressing this law to its passage. He was recognized by the people of North Alabama as the uncompromising enemy of monopoly and the champion of the people, and his course in congress made him the most popular man of his period and placed at his command the highest offices that the people of his State could bestow.

The Cherokee cession made at different periods from the year 1819 to 1830 had placed the greater portions of the lands in North Alabama in the market, and the great land sales at Huntsville in the year 1830 was the most remarkable event of the time, and an

examination of the census reports from the year 1830 to 1840 will show a remarkable increase in our population during that decade. The old Cherokee line of 1809 was re-surveyed in the year 1819, and soon after the work of dividing the lands in New Madison into subdivisions was commenced on the Tennessee line. Capt. Joseph Rice, a pioneer of New Market, deceased but a few months ago, was probably the last survivor of the men who participated in this work. He was one of the surveying party in the capacity of chain carrier, and used to tell in his inimitable style many anecdotes of the trip. A little south east of New Market there is a remarkable deviation in the line, of which he gives the following explanation: Benjamin Clements in his survey, coming near a settler's house, sent to the occupant for a jug of buttermilk, which was somewhat curtly refused him, whereon he deflected his line and put the settler out of Old Madison into the unsurveyed territory, and it required some years' time and a special order from the general surveyor to straighten the line. At the present maps of Madison county do not show the old Cherokee line it is difficult to convey an idea of the form of the territory added to the county and sold at the land sales of 1840. From the State line to its extreme southern limit at the mouth of Paint Rock is about thirty-five miles, being the maximum extent of the county north and south. The east and west boundaries, the first following the dividing ridge between Flint and Paint Rock and the last being the old Cherokee line, while both tend nearly a south course, are very crooked, and there can scarcely be found any two points in the whole extent of the same width, the widest portion being from Ashburn's Ford, on Flint river, to Paint Rock, east of Mt. Nebo Church, being about twelve miles on an air line. The narrowest part, from the township corner east of Thos. P. Gurley's to the Old Madison line near site of the old Gurley mill, is about two miles wide, and from McNulty town to the State line the average is about eight miles, and it added to the county an area of about three hundred square miles.

At the time of the land sales the largest body of level fertile lands offered in New Madison was the lands around the present town of Gurleystown, where the lands known as Ashburne's Cove breaks the connection between the more northern range and Keel's Mountain, and leaves the latter entirely isolated and interposing a solid barrier between the northern and southern portion of New

Madison, around which we must skirt Flint on the western side or Paint Rock on the eastern by nearly equal routes to the southern portion of the new county. This level table land, but little broken by mountain spurs, extends from Hurricane Creek to Paint Rock, and includes in its limits the Gurley, Robertson, Clay and Coles plantation east of Gurleystown and partly in Jackson county, and the plantations skirting the northern base of Keel's Mountain west of Gurleystown to Flint river, at John W. Grayson's. South of Keel's Mountain there are many mountain spurs and detached ridges interspersed over an otherwise level country between the waters of Paint Rock and Flint, giving great diversity of soil, including the pine flats west of New Hope, the rich alluvial lands on the banks of the rivers, the black, fertile lands of the cedar ridges, and the dark clay soil of the Cedar Ridge and Paint Rock, once covered with magnificent poplar growth from which Poplar Ridge precinct derives its name. The northern portion of New Madison is mostly in the coves and valleys of Mountain Fork and Upper Hurricane, comprising some of the finest lands in many respects in the county. The region known as New Madison was formed by nature for the home of small farmers, and but little over half a century has elapsed since its permanent settlement. In no other portion of North Alabama has the population been more permanent or the original settlers as largely represented by their descendants on the homesteads of their fathers. A large number of these old pioneers have passed away in the memory of the present generation, and a few here and there still survive and live on their old homesteads purchased in 1830, and I propose before proceeding in the history of the county to devote one or more chapters to the memory of the pioneers of New Madison, who were here at the time of the land sales, and give their location.

Chapter X.

Land Sales of July, 1830.

The preemption law was enacted in May, 1830. This act gave to all parties who were in actual occupancy or who had cultivated or improved any public lands in the year 1829 the privilege of filing a preemption claim on their lands and obtaining a patent at the minimum price fixed on government lands. The act of 1820 had abolished the credit system in sale of public lands, and fixed

the minimum price at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and reduced the minimum of quantity from one hundred and sixty acres down to eighty, except from fractions ranging over eighty acres and less than one hundred and sixty. This was a valuable concession to actual settlers wanting small homes, as each settler who could command one hundred dollars could secure his home. On lands on which there was no preemption the field was still open for speculators, and a stringent law had been enacted forbidding any one under penalty of imprisonment and a fine of one thousand dollars from offering any inducement to any one to refrain from bidding public lands and from agreeing for a consideration to refrain from bidding. Notwithstanding these regulations and from other causes, the greater part of these lands sold at low prices and were bought by actual occupants.

The lands offered for sale in 1830 embraced New Madison and also Jackson county and a portion of the present counties of DeKalb and Marshall. The first sale of public land for that year was in July, and embraced the upper portions of Jackson and New Madison. The second sale commenced on the first Monday in October, and at that time Huntsville was thronged with an eager crowd of purchasers, some of them speculators but the large body of them small farmers with the means to purchase a home, or here endeavoring to raise money for that purpose.—Prominent among capitalists buying lands on speculation were James McCartney, Wm. H. Moore, Richard W. Anderson, John Gilchrist and Terry Bradley, all of whom invested largely and realized handsome profits from their purchases. At the land sales of 1830, and in the course of a few months thereafter, a large number of old citizens of New Madison whose descendants still reside in the county, purchased homes. At the July sales many old citizens of the northern part of the county, who at the land sales of 1809 had bought lands on the old county line, made considerable purchases in the new territory. Isaac Criner, the pioneer farmer, with his brother Granville as partner, purchased, with other lands, the fine farm near where he built his first cabin, on which he lived for over half a century. The Walkers, Davises and Rices, whom he preceded but a few months, also made considerable additions to their already fertile and flourishing farms. While the Walker family in the Hickory Flat region was not so fully represented as at the present time, yet there were not less than three represented in the July land

sales, as we find the names of James and Samuel and William Walker among the purchasers of the beautiful region largely occupied to-day by the family. Moses Power and Sarah Williamson and Hawley Williamson and John Campbell, Robert and William Davis, Theo Pennington, John Green and James Moore are largely represented in our county. But the families of Thomas Dorgan, James Gillespie, James Carroll and Nancy McDougall no longer are numbered among citizens of Hickory Flat, neither do any of the Griggs or Wilkins family now live on lower Mountain Fork. Upper Mountain Fork, after passing the rich basin of land purchased by William Davis, was vacant until about the year 1832, when the greater proportion of the rich but narrow valley was taken up by Joseph Hudson, Wm. Clunn and William Petty, the former of whom has many descendants living in that region. Shortly afterwards come Abner Moore, now the patriarch of the valley who when long past his fourscore years was still able to clamber over his mountain lands and point out the old land marks of sixty years ago. I believe he is the last survivor of the old and vigorous race who opened these fertile valleys to cultivation.

George Tannehill Jones, whom I have frequently mentioned purchased a considerable portion of his large farm at the land sales, and Thomas and John Miller added large acres to their fine lands in the old county. John Howard and Baldwin Howard and Jacob Scisco located east of New Market near Grimmett's and Terry's, and Samuel Yarbrough at the old homestead. George Smith, who was an early settler from the Hiwassee valley and the pioneer merchant and principal owner of the present town of New Market, and who already ran one mile along the Indian line, squared his lands by purchase of a fraction east of the boundary.

About the head of Hurricane Wm. Baker purchased several hundred acres of land which formed the nucleus of the large plantation afterwards owned by him. In a few years a large settlement grew up around him, and during election times candidates frequently resorted thither to frolic and merry-makings so much in vogue at that time, and also to seek the influence of the old gentleman and Aunt Hannah Baker, his wife, a lady endowed with an unusual portion of good, strong common sense and a judgment on which it is said many of her voting neighbors were wont to rely in determining for whom their ballots should be cast. Uncle William Baker's neighbor and friend, Joseph Hamrick who like

him purchased his first home at the land sales and accumulated a large portion of this world's goods, was in some respects more fortunate than he. While the Baker name is now represented in the Hurricane region by Allison W. Baker alone, Joseph Hambrick left a large family of the name, many of whom of the third generation he lived to see attain the age of manhood. Col. J. M. Hambrick, the youngest son, was long a prominent man in the county, and is too well remembered by our people to require any notice on my part. The Rices, Baylesses and Braggs were among the earliest settlers, and were several of them in the war of 1812 under their kinsman, the gallant Captain James Hamilton. The older members of these families having already purchased at the land sales of 1809, purchased but little of the new lands, but the younger members of the families sought homes in the new purchase, and Thomas and Benjamin and Luna Bragg located near what is now known as Bragg's church, and no family in the county has preserved through three generations a better character for industry, sobriety and sound, practical common sense. Joseph Rice and Othneil Rice, the old representatives of a remarkable family both long past their fourscore years, have recently passed away, leaving many worthy representatives of the old name, foremost among whom in talent and purity of character is Dr. Francisco Rice, well and favorably known to a large portion of the citizens of our county.

Among the old citizens of New Market Dr. Geo. D. Norris and Isaac Cook have probably survived the entire generation who lived in that vicinity when they first located in that town. Dr. Norris has for near half a century practised his profession in that vicinity. A man of talent and culture and a close observer of men and manners, he is doubtless the best informed man on our early history in North Alabama. He is Past Grand Master of the Grand Masonic Lodge of the State of Alabama, and enjoys the honor of representing the Grand Lodge of England under a commission bearing the signature of the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the Lodge of Great Britain.

From New Market southward to McNulty town the old Madison line ran on or near the mountain ridge dividing the waters of Hurricane and Flint. The long and narrow Hurricane valley, including the coves formed by the mountain ridges, included as fertile a body of land as can be found in North Alabama. These lands

were taken up in small tracts by a large body of settlers, some of whom still occupy these lands while others are largely represented by their posterity. Their number is so large that it is impossible to give all their names. South of Joseph Hambrich's and occupying lands east of New Market to Hurricane valley, I can name William Jackson, John and James Robinson, James and Levi Methvin and Eli Woodward, whose descendants have sought other homes. Eldridge Bailes and Robert Hall still live on their old homesteads. Joel and Jesse Stone, James Cochran, A. J. Fowler, Wm. Wells, George Howard, Abram Miller, Jno. W. Irby, the Braggs and Rogers are familiar names and largely represented in that part of the county. Out in Sharp's Cove, round a network of Indian reservations, purchased by James McCartney and extending up the cove as far as the soil was tillable, was congregated a colony of the Sharp family, who as purchasers at the land sales of 1830 furnish us the names of John, Joe, William, George, Leroy and Patsey Sharp, and also Henry Scott, whose wife belonged to the Sharp family, all living in a body on a area of fertile land in the cove.

Old McNulty-town was a place of considerable importance at this time. It was near the centre of McNultry's reservation, near Mrs. Mariah Giles' residence, on Hurricane and at one time there was a mill, a dry goods store and grocery at this point, and here Wm. Robinson, afterwards sheriff of the county and a man of wealth, commenced his successful career selling goods and groceries. Just below McNulty town, on Wilson's reservation, James McCartney built the present "Bone Homestead," the first brick house built in that part of the new county, and with the Indian reservations and adjoining small tracts purchased from the original owners located a plantation of two thousand acres. John Derrick owned the south half of Wilson's reservation, on which he lived for a long time.

In Killenworth's Cove and east of Maysville nearly all of the available lands were purchased at the land sales, and I believe that Caswell B. Derrick is the only survivor of the original purchasers. In this vicinity were settled in 1830 David Pockrus, Sampson Province, Vincent Derrick, Samuel and John and Jonathan Tipton, Robert Light and Richard Bowhannan, many of whom died on their original homesteads. The lands from the

Tennessee line down to Gurleysville were nearly all taken up at the land sales in July. The country from John Gurley's south to Paint Rock and Tennessee Rivers was offered for sale in October, 1830, and will be taken up in another chapter.

Chapter XI.

Land Sales of October, 1830—Gurleysville and Collier's.

From the point of the ridge forming the limit of Killingsworth Cove Hurricane Creek is deflected westwardly by the low cedar ridge known fifty years ago as Gurley's Mountain. Crossing the low gap commencing at the Steger place and ending at John Gurley's old homestead we come to the splendid body of land to which I have already alluded, reaching from Gurley's to Keel's Mountain and from the waters of Hurricane to those of Paint Rock, and divided nearly equally by the line of Madison and Jackson running due south on the range line. The greater number of the purchasers of these lands were among the earliest settlers in the county, and their names are on our records back to the extension of organic law into the county. The McBrooms and Criners were related, and Stephen McBroom came here with Joe and Isaac Criner and one or two others on an exploring tour about the year 1804, and they were the first white men of whom there is any authentic record who visited Mountain Fork and Hurricane valleys. At the time of the land sales these men, with the McCartneys, Rountrees, Reagans, Peeveys, Cromers, Stegers, Keels, Thomas M. King and others were old citizens of the county, living along the line of Old Madison, and in 1830 purchased the greater portion of the territory in New Madison above mentioned. The fertile red clay lands were covered with a forest of towering poplars and the river bottoms and low lands were a thick canebrake with narrow paths traversing them to the rivers. The country was full of game and was a favorite hunting ground for the sportsmen from the older portion of the county. John Gurley and Thomas M. King had settled near the big spring, south of the Vincent place, then a clear, lasting and large basin of water, and their hospitable home was a favorite resort of Thomas Brandon and other lovers of field sports during the hunting season.

At the land sales Thomas McBroom located the present Gurley homestead, and Caswell B. Derrick was just north of him near the Steger spring. John Gurley purchased and built at his old homestead, and west of him, extending down to the corporation line of Gurleysville, John and Charles McCartney purchased half a section of land, and out west near the cedar ridge where the homes of George Lane and Thomas Ferguson. Robert Rountree lived at the present homestead of Wm. R. Gurley. For many years thereafter the land round Gurleysville was in the woods with no public road except the old Belle Fonte road on the east running near the county line. The settlement along the base of Keel's Mountain consisted of a few small clearings, isolated from each other by a heavy forest growth. But the country improved very fast, and the industrious farmers, with abundance of fine building material in easy reach, constructed many substantial dwellings of hewn poplar that still remain in good condition. The old Gurley homestead, the McBroom and McCartney homesteads have been destroyed by fire, the two first during the war, the last since, but the houses built by Robert Reagan, Mai (sic) Taylor and David Cromer still remain in a good state of preservation. John Gurley became the owner of the greater portion of the lands east and north of Gurleysville, and there were but few better plantations in the county than the body of land he possessed. The Taylor place was entered by Wm. Keel, who sold to Mai Taylor in 1832 and settled on the mountain at the Chalybeate Spring where he lived for a long time and gave the mountain its present name. Wherey Whittaker also settled at the base of the mountain, afterwards removed to the top, and thence to the neighborhood of New Hope, where he is now living. He and Mai Taylor are the only survivors of the old settlers of the land in Ashburn's Cove.

David Cromer and John Gurley built the first mills on lower Hurricane, both of which were kept up for a long time. Robert W. Peevy purchased the lands now owned by John W. Grayson at the spring, and Peevy's spring was the muster ground of the old militia battalion for over a quarter of a century. Just west of Gurleysville lived Samuel Barron, a school teacher of the olden time. He was of Irish birth, a man of will and varied information, with old orthodox idea of training and discipline, and for the best of reasons is well remembered by scores of the old citizens of New Madison, who were boys when he was in the prime of his

physical and intellectual strength. He left two sons, Dr. Wm. J. Barron, of Huntsville, and Samuel B. Barron, a lawyer, and present Clerk of the County Court of Cherokee County, Texas. Thomas M. King, one of the oldest citizens of the county, was a Methodist minister widely known and highly respected in his time.

On the old Deposit road from Allen Sanford's to Peevy's spring there was no settlement for many years, and this whole country around to Gurleysville was a vast cattle and hog range for the people near the mountain. Some-times the traveller would meet a drove of one or two hundred hogs roaming the woods, and their owners generally let them run in the woods until they were two or three years old before they were penned, fattened on corn and then made into bacon. These droves of porkers when interrupted by dogs, were sometimes quite formidable, and hunters on foot sometimes had to take to trees and logs for safety, while their dogs had to run for their lives. On one occasion Thomas Brandon with a small hunting party was enjoying the hospitality of old brother King, and while on a hunting expedition had a severe battle with a drove of hogs that resented the intrusion of the hounds on their domain. After a lively skirmish their porcine antagonists were routed, but two or three of their best dogs were badly cut up in the encounter. They put their dogs in a wagon and carried them to Parson King's. As was usual in slave times the kitchen was some distance from the house, and after supper while the Parson's cook, Manda, a full-blooded African, full of the superstition of her race, was getting the dishes together to carry to the kitchen to wash, the party went out to see about their dogs. A chilly drizzling rain had set in, and the dogs were shivering from cold and loss of blood. Parson King suggested that the dogs should be wrapped in their bright-colored blankets and carried into the kitchen and laid around the wide fireplace to dry, and his suggestions were promptly carried out. The more pretentious of our county people at this time were discarding the old-fashioned pewter and were beginning to make a display of delf ware and China on special occasions. Therefore it so happened that Manda started to the kitchen with the whole precious lot of her mistress's finest table ware, and just before she reached the door she saw the pile of dogs in ghostly garb, and with an unearthly yell she dropped her precious burden on the ground and breaking it in pieces she fled to the house, and could not be induced to go back until the dogs were unveiled.

John McCartney was a keen sportsman and a celebrated bee hunter, and as bee trees were abundant he would go out and locate the course of the swarms, blaze a few trees to indicate the converging directions from different points, and then with a company prepared with axes, old rags, pails and pans he would unerringly ferret out the hiding-places of the wild swarms, and the party would return laden with the rich deposit of the despoiled hives.

About this time the rough canebreaks about Cole's spring were the resort of a gang of rogues and counterfeiterers that gave considerable trouble to honest citizens, and there is a tradition that, under pretense of manufacturing saltpetre, they carried on their counterfeiting operations in the saltpetre cave on the Cole place. This gang was broken up through the potent influence of Captain Slick, whose name was at that time the terror of evil doers. A considerable amount of saltpetre was manufactured in this cave by the citizens to use in making gunpowder, and the remains of their old hoppers are still (to) be seen. Keel's Mountain is about six miles across, and by the roads it is about eighteen miles round the mountain, and on it there are coal deposits that may prove at some day to be valuable.

From the corner of the Cherokee cession south of Guilford Bennett's the old Indian line runs on an air line to the Tennessee river, skirting Flint river from the McClung place to where it crosses over Wood's mill, and from that point all the country between Flint and Paint Rock is in the twelve miles square reserved by the Indians for educational purposes. From near Maysville to the old Larne Ferry on Paint Rock below New Hope there were but few settlements prior to 1830. There was an old settlement at the Cave Spring, and George Russell and Davis Lemly located on public land at Vienna, now New Hope, at an early day. Among the purchasers in 1830 in the neighborhood of Collier's store and Cave Spring were Clement Baldwin, Jonathan Collier, Thomas Ellison, Bryant and R. W. Cobb, Josiah Cook and William and Richard Glover and George Eason. Jonathan Collier, an old militia captain, settled the old Wm. Wright place, and has many descendants still living in Collier's precinct, and Thomas Ellison was a prominent and influential man at that time. His son in-law, Joseph Collier, a son of Jonathan Collier, is the oldest living repre-

sentative of these families. David Cobb settled at an early day near Cobb's ford. His sons, Bryant and W. R. W. Cobb, were both prominent men in their time. Bryant Cobb was in the mercantile business for some time, in which he met disasters that seriously effected his business enterprises, but for half a century he was a prominent figure in that country, and died some two or three years ago at an advanced age. W. R. W. Cobb was raised in that neighborhood, and commencing life as a plow boy he became successively clock peddler, general trader and merchant. Removing to Jackson county he was elected to the legislature and then to congress, in which he served for fourteen years, and being invincible before the people would, but for the war, have remained there until he thought proper to retire to from the field. His natural shrewdness and intimate knowledge of human nature obtained by a wide experience made him the most formidable opponent ever encountered by an aspirant for congressional honors, and the utter rout, at the polls, of such men as William Acklen, Jere Clemens, C. C. Clay and James M. Adams, all for his superior in educational advantages, was to him but child's play. The Cobbs, with their other remarkable characteristics, were Titans in stature, towering several inches above ordinary men. During the days of W. R. W. Cobb's supremacy, when he mingled among his constituents at their political gatherings, he was the observed of all observers. The suavity of his address, his towering stature, the reach of his arms, his coolness, self possession and undaunted courage and perseverance more than counterbalanced his lack of early educational facilities and extended his popularity with the people of his district. The Cobb family is still numerous and influential in the county, and Dickson Cobb, now the oldest representative of the family, had served many terms as county commissioner. John Allison, a man of Irish descent and brother-in-law of Bryant and W. R. W. Cobb, was for a long time county commissioner, and was an early settler near Cave Spring, where from an humble beginning he by industry and economy accumulated a fine property which is still owned by his heirs, of which there are many, he having left no direct descendants.

The lands thrown open to purchasers in 1830, which lie along the Deposit road from John W. Grayson's to the Cave Spring were taken up rapidly, and the whole region soon became thickly populated by a moral, intelligent and industrious community, whose descendants still form the best element of the lower Flint country.

Chapter XII.

Land Sales of October, 1830—Poplar Ridge and Vienna.

South of Collier's Store Keel's Mountain and a low detached ridge extending westwardly from Cave Spring to the Fleming place, reaching nearly to the old boundary line, before the county districts were divided with reference to the sixteen sections formed a geographical as well as legal division between Collier's Store and the large district south of it, all of which was originally in the Vienna precinct. This country now includes four voting precincts, to-wit: New Hope, Owen's X Roads, Poplar Ridge and Cloud's Cove, of which Poplar Ridge was formed many years before the civil war. Among citizens of the older part of the county who were here with the first settlers and selling out lands in Old Madison permanently located in this part of this county were Jabez L. Drake, George Dilworth, George and Robert Woody, the Middletons, Brazletons, Ledbetters, Joseph and Isham Collier and Jason L. Jordan, and the Whittakers.

Around Bethel Church, at the south base of Keel's Mountain, was a body of fine poplar land that was located at the land sales of October, 1830. In what is now known as Manning's Cove the upper portion was entered by Wm. Honea, who made his first improvement at the head of the Cove, and the part including the Big Spring was entered by Wm. Babb, who built the houses still standing near the spring. This spring is the head of what is known as Trimble's creek that meanders southward four or five miles over some fine lands to Paint Rock. Francis Flippen, who purchased his first quarter section at the land sales to which by subsequent purchases he made considerable additions, came here from Virginia about the year 1819 or '20, and settled the place now belonging to the heirs of Dr. Isaac Sullivan, who was one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of that period and was afterwards a physician of high repute in New Madison.

The largest purchaser of land in that neighborhood was Edward Maples, who not only entered all the lands on the original homestead now owned by F. T. Butler, one of his descendants, but likewise made some purchases apart and separated from his homestead, among which was what is known as the "Cole eighty,"

north of "Bethel Cemetery." The Maples family have probably contributed a larger quota of pioneer population to the southern and western country than any other family in the State. The family came here from East Tennessee a short time before the year 1830, and their immediate ancestor, Noah Maples, was a soldier of the revolutionary war, and one of my first recollections of him was the prominent position assigned him at fourth of July celebrations and on public occasions as the surviving representative of the revolutionary war in his community. To the best of my recollection he was but once married, and he and his wife raised a family of nineteen or twenty children, the large majority of whom were boys, nearly all of whom reared large families in Madison and Jackson counties. The family generally had many of the old pioneer traits characteristic of their ancestry and also their pluck and enterprise, and as they grew up sought new homes in the west, where they, as a general rule were prosperous. Although the family have numerous representatives in Madison and Jackson counties, yet in many counties of Missouri, Northern Arkansas and Texas we find them as fully represented as here in their original home. Of the sons of old Noah Maples, Ed, Peter, George, Josiah and James settled in New Madison, and several of the family, among whom were Moses and William, in Jackson county. Josiah Maples entered eighty acres of land east of Gurleysville, but I think he soon sold out and moved westward. Peter Maples now lives on the lands he purchased at the land sales in the house built by him nearly fifty years ago. He has been pastor of the Primitive Baptist Church for nearly forty years, and being well known to every old citizen of New Madison and still living in the enjoyment of health and with but little impairing of mental or physical vigor, I will not shock his modesty by paying that tribute to his sterling qualities of head and heart that my long and intimate acquaintance would justify.

Thomas Woodall and Wm. Barclay purchased lands near Bethel Church, and Barclay's place was afterwards purchased by John C. Grayson, a man full of energy and enterprise, who put up a mill and cotton gin that ran all winter by the waters of the falling spring that during the large part of the season forms a romantic and beautiful little waterfall in the heart of the mountain above Bethel. Thos. Woodall established a hemp factory on his place, and but for the hard times of 1830-40 coming on them in

the beginning of their enterprises they would have succeeded in making the Bethel neighborhood a considerable industrial center. From Bethel towards Paint Rock, Thomas Riddles, Joseph Manning and Job Wilhelms and Abe Atchley were the only purchasers of the land sales of 1830—the Woodalls and Kennibrough (sic) and Bryant Cobb at Cobb's mill making their entries a year or two later. From Bethel towards New Hope was an unbroken wilderness down to old Jimmy Taylor's place, where there was a settlement occupied by James Taylor, James G. Holmes, the Wooddys, George Dilworth, Henry Stammers, John Harless and others, on which lands there were but little improvements made and but few houses built.

What is now known as the big bend of Paint Rock remained vacant for some years longer, when it was occupied by the Whitakers, Staples, Vanns, Ikards, and others, many of whom still live on their old homesteads. In fact both on Paint Rock and Flint but little of what is known as river bank land in this region was cleared until after the year 1865. At that time there was hardly a break in the timber along Paint Rock from Cobb's mill to the mouth of Cedar Creek, but now it is almost one continuous field of cleared land of as fine corn land as can be found in the county. Jason L. Jordan, of Old Madison purchased land near Vienna. I believe it was the lands afterwards owned by Mr. Davis (sic) Moore. Thomas Vann, Sr., located the lands north of the town. The quarter section on which the town is located was purchased at the land sales by James McCartney and Robert Owen, and the town was laid off into lots for Robert Owen and Wm. B. Fant shortly afterwards.

The Deposit road was opened in time of the Creek war by General Jackson from New Market to Deposit Ferry, and was long called Jackson's trace. I do not know when Geo. Russell settled at Vienna, but I think he was keeping a hotel there for several years before the land sales. Aaron Harrison and Wm. Allison entered the lands south of the quarter section line and lived there for many years. Wm. Cloud was the first merchant there, and the town was first called Cloud Town, but in the year 1832 it was incorporated under the name of Vienna, but under the postoffice regulations forbidding two post-offices of the same name in a State, and there being another Vienna in Alabama, the post-office was called New Hope, from the Methodist Church in the town, and

the town was recently incorporated under that name. John Kennibrough commenced the mercantile business there in the early days of the town, and was successful and prosperous in business. William Stone established a tan-yard there, and was long one of its most influential and prosperous citizens, and just before the war he emigrated to Talladega. It is said that his brother, George W. Stone, now Justice of the Supreme Court of the State, lived there a short time before he went south in pursuit of fame and fortune.

There was but little of the public lands sold in 1830 east of New Hope in the bend of Paint Rock, Joseph Stapler and one or two others being all who located their lands that year. West of New Hope on Paint Rock and along the Cedar Ridge there was a considerable settlement, the ancestors of the Hamers, Vanns and Hannahs being among the number who settled there. Reuben Lemley and Benjamin Inman entered the lands on the Phipp's place near the old fish trap. Many of the Lemley family are still citizens of the county, but there are but few representatives of the old Inman family remaining in the county. There are but few people aware of the fact that the Inmans, some of whom are bankers in Georgia and others merchant princes in New York and Philadelphia, who were proprietors of the famous Inman line of ocean steamers plying between New York and Liverpool, a little over forty years ago, were poor boys living on Flint river. Benjamin Inman entered land on Flint in 1830, and the elder sons of the family who went northward to join his brothers about the year 1838 left Vienna on a sorry pony, and he is now one of the richest merchants in the city of Philadelphia.

Out towards Ashburne's Ford John D. Wylie and Elisha Bell entered large and valuable tracts of lands, and west of the river John Ashburn, the Gardners, Stephen Richards, Sol. Spence and John Hobbs, all locating large bodies of lands, occupied nearly all the fine fertile lands from the mouth of Flint to the Cherokee line at John Logan's, including Chickasaw, now Hobbs Island. A small portion of the Big Cove was in New Madison, and Burgess and Robert McGaha, Francis Worley and John Neal came across the old boundary line and settled west of the river near Wood's Mill. The mill, now owned by Walter O. Carpenter, was put up by Thomas D. Leonard and John C. Grayson, and is one of the old land marks of New Madison. The land on which the mill is located was a fraction entered in 1830 by Dickson Cobb, and he and

Azariah Cobb and Nancy Cobb owned the land west of the public road for two miles.

It was in the year 1830 that Major Fleming made his first purchase in the "Tall Timbers," as he named this region, and for over a quarter of a century was the most popular and influential man in that region. Before the war he had purchased a large plantation in that region, that is now cut into smaller farms, with many settlers. A large number of old citizens who came into the county many years before this period located in this country and bought homes within a few years after the land sales, among whom may be mentioned the Elletts, Greens, Ledbetters, Carpenters and Millers, whose descendants form a numerous and influential element of their community at the present day. The Ledbetters were among the oldest settlers in the county, some of them being here in the year 1809 or '10, and many of them were prominent citizens, of whom John W. Ledbetter was the first tax collector elected by the people from the south-eastern part of the county. He was afterwards a prosperous merchant at New Hope, since the war a member of our State legislature, and now lives at Weaver's Station, in Calhoun county.

New Madison increased in population very rapidly, and soon became an important and influential section, as in the days of exclusively white suffrage its almost solid white population gave it the balance of power in our local elections.

I have now detailed the occupation and settlement of the last addition to our county limits, and in future articles my history will relate to the county with its present boundaries, which have not been materially altered since the land sales of 1830.

Chapter XIII.

Public Men from 1830 to 1835

From the year 1820 to 1830 the population of Madison county increased from 17,481 to 27,990, or a little over ten thousand in ten years. In the south-western portion of the county the occupation of the fertile and valuable farming lands of that region had largely increased the slave population, which outnumbered the whites until the advent of a large white population of small farmers into

New Madison, just before the land sales, restored the balance, so that, by the census of 1830, the whites and slave population were nearly equal. In the year 1830, the anti-bellum population of the county attained its maximum, as from reasons to be given hereafter, there was a decrease of over two thousand in our population from 1830 to 1840, and but little difference in that number up to the census of 1860.

From the year 1830 all the lands in our present limits have been open to entry and settlement, and for many years after the land sales many of the best farming tracts in New Madison remained vacant. An act of congress had appropriated four hundred thousand acres of the unsold land in and adjoining the Tennessee valley to the State of Alabama, to be sold by the State and the proceeds applied to the opening of the Muscle Shoals. This land was sold in lots from twenty acres upwards, and the greater portion sold in Madison county under this act was purchased by speculators, as there was but little demand for this class of lands for purchasers. The swamp lands, as they were called, sold under this act, were generally in the river bottoms and covered with cane, and the portion purchased by land-owners generally consisted of small tracts adjoining their farm, to prevent future intrusion or for the timber where their original purchases included land, all of which was susceptible of profitable cultivation.

From the settlement of New Madison until the advent of railroads the intercourse between the people in the eastern and western portions of the county was restricted, and the greater portion of the trade of small farmers was with merchants in their own localities. There was but little cotton raised east of the mountains, and that little was generally bought by the country merchants, who either sent it to Nashville in wagons that returned laden with goods, or they consigned it to commission merchants, who advanced them money on it and sent it down Tennessee river to New Orleans, and, except those peddling to Huntsville, very few of our small farmers living at a distance from the county site ever had occasion to come here on business.

The roads across the mountains toward Maysville and the Big Cove were newly opened and rough and difficult in winter, and Flint River, without bridges, frequently interposed a serious obstacle to travel. There are many citizens of New Madison who

now visits Huntsville every week, raised in the county, who, until they attained their majority, had not visited the county site half a dozen times.

The older portion of the county, occupied by opulent slaveholders making cotton bales by hundreds, gave Huntsville its original prosperity, and while there is doubtless a great increase in the mercantile business of the town, yet it is of quite a different character from that of 1830 to 1840. At that time a large majority of our planters raised their supplies at home, and corn or meat was seldom if ever seen on sale at the stores. But luxury and extravagance among the wealthier classes became the order of the day, and the merchants found their profit in the sale of goods, wares and merchandise pertaining to well ordered households and to customers who did not haggle over prices but turned over their cotton to their merchants at the close of the year, with the simple direction "Take my account out of it and keep the rest until I call for it." In those days suspicion or distrust seldom arose between merchant and customer, and the long and intimate business relations subsisting between these parties, some of them for over a quarter of a century, is unquestionable evidence of the honesty and fair dealing of the merchants of that period. John Vining was State Senator from 1830 to 1835, and in addition to several of the representatives already mentioned the names of Henry King, James G. Carroll, Samuel Pette, George T. Jones, Jabez Leftwich, John D. Phelan and Wm. H. Glasscock, all of whom are favorably known to the older men of the present day, appear in the list of our members of the lower house. The county did not endorse rotation in office, as regarded political offices, but elected, year after year until they voluntarily retired, such men as Dr. Thomas Fearn, Samuel Walker, James W. McClung and James Penn, the latter of whom was speaker of the house in the years 1830 to 1831.

In the year 1833, Arthur F. Hopkins, one of the most brilliant and popular men of his time, and afterwards the leader of the Whigs in the State of Alabama, made his debut in politics as a member of the legislature from the county of Madison. Hon. Samuel Chapman, Judge of Madison County Court, had gone into office on the creation of the county court in the year 1823, and retired from the office in the year 1832, having been elected at that time the judge of the seventh judicial circuit where he occupied the judicial bench until the year 1849, making over a quarter of a

century holding a judicial office in our State. John C. Thompson, a man well known to the old citizens of Huntsville, succeeded him and held the office for twelve years.

Thomas Brandon, who held the office of clerk of the county court while Alabama was a territory, and afterwards, by successive elections by the people, to 1832, was in that year succeeded by Richard C. Purdem, who had served a term as assessor and collector for the county from 1829 to 1832, and who now entered on the duties of clerk of the county court, which he formed acceptably for a period of twelve years. Lemuel Mead, who was deputy clerk in the superior court under Francis E. Harris, a member of our State convention, was elected clerk on the organization of the courts in 1820, and was the only old officer who held over after the general election in 1832, resigning his office in 1836, when Wm. H. L. Brown succeeded him. Many of the books of these old clerks are models in chirography and accuracy, with few erasures or blots, and must have represented a vast expenditure of clerical labor, as many of the books, from beginning to end, are but little inferior to copper plate and will compare favorably with the records of any age or country.

The constitution enforced rotation in the sheriff's office, which had become a lucrative one, and in 1830 was filled by Jeff. Mills, long a prominent and influential citizen of Madison county and son-in-law of Thomas Brandon. He was succeeded by J. R. H. Acklen in 1831, and he by Daniel B. Turner in 1834, who on the expiration of his term of office served three years in the State Senate. He also served a term as postmaster of Huntsville, and was one of the most popular and influential of our public men. He died in the year 1866, and living through our civil war, in addition to the wreck of fortune and the usual calamities attending that disastrous period, experienced the saddest affliction in the death of his only son, James Camp Turner, one of the most promising young men of his time who fell in the first battle of Manassas.

James McCartney, Gross Scruggs, Stephen Biles and George T. Jones served as county commissioners for the greater portion of this time, and the county never had an abler or better board. On the death of James McCartney the vacancy was filled by Thomas McCrary, a man of fine business qualifications, who remained as member of the board until 1854, being the longest term of service in our county on record.

In the selection of officers to the time of which I write our county was peculiarly fortunate, as they were without exception, selected from the best of our citizens, and were so acceptable to the citizens of the county but there was but little disposition to change. There was but little of the political element in the selection of county officers, and when the old officers chosen on the formation of the constitution retired to private life they were succeeded by younger men full of energy and imbued with the progressive ideas of the period, who gave to the county prosperity at home and an enviable reputation abroad.

Chapter XIV.

Madison County 1835 and '36—The Texas Revolution.

In a former chapter I gave a brief sketch of the old militia organization in the county and names of some of the old company commanders. For many years prior to the period of which I now write there had been a military organization under different names in the city of Huntsville. In the year 1816, John W. Walker, in a letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, asking that the old Planters and Merchant's Bank at Huntsville be made a bank of deposit for government bonds, after detailing the wonderful prosperity of the new county and city, states that there are two regiments of militia in the county besides a company of light infantry in the city. In the militia law of the legislature of 1821 the light infantry company of Capt. Jno. K. Dunnis exempted from its provisions, and this was probably the first company in the State regularly enrolled as "State troops". But in the year 1829 the old "Huntsville Guards" was organized, and for many years comprised in its ranks many of our best citizens and earned a reputation for tone and discipline. This company organized under the auspices of John K. Dunn and Payton (sic) S. Wyatt, both men of military predilections, who, if they had not lived in a peaceful era, might have gone down to posterity with heroes who lived in later days. It numbered among its officers men like John C. Spotswood, Judge John C. Thomas and John W. Otey. In 1832 Payton S. Wyatt was elected Colonel of militia and was succeeded by Capt. John C. Spotswood, under whom the company was in its highest state of efficiency, and on

his removal from Huntsville to practice his profession in Athens, John W. Otey was elected to succeed him and was an able and zealous officer of the company for many years. This company and its successor, the famous "Huntsville Rifles," the larger portion of whose members died on the battle-fields of civil war, were the training schools of many of the officers of the Madison county companies who made a lasting reputation during that ventful period. Dr. John C. Spotswood, as far as I know, is the last surveying (sic) officer of the old Huntsville Guards, and there are but few of its old members now living.

Between the years 1830 and 1836 emigration from Madison county to Texas commenced. From the year 1803, when Louisiana was ceded by Spain to France, this has been debatable land with a disputed boundary, and when the United States with its restless border population, obtained possession of the lower Mississippi valley there were a series of battles around San Antonio and the old Alamo, the most serious of which was the defeat and wholesale massacre of a revolutionary army, 2500 strong, near San Antonio in 1836. But when Mexico formed a Republic and Moses and Stephen Austin had planted a flourishing American colony in the heart of Texas, there was a large emigration in that direction. The emigrants from Madison county went to New Orleans in flat-boats and thence on ship-board to Galveston. The first large body of emigrants from this county who went down the Mississippi and across the gulf in the early autumn of 1832 were most unfortunate. Before the vessel on which they embarked reached the mouth of the Mississippi the Asiatic cholera, that had gradually crept down the Mississippi from Canada and the great lakes broke out on board of the vessel. The officers of the panic-stricken ship concluded to make a push for Galveston, but a storm arose and delayed their voyage for three days, and the storm raging without and the cholera preying on the panic-stricken passengers shut up in the hold of the vessel intensified the horror of the situation. Before the ship reached land, out of one hundred and thirty passengers over sixty had died and had been buried in the sea, and many others died after they reached the land. The Nimmos and Davises were among the sufferers, three brothers of the Nimmo family dying on the voyage; but the survivors of this unexpected calamity pushed on into the upper country and performed their part in the stirring military events that were soon to follow.

At the commencement of the Texas Revolution the emigrant population of twenty thousand in that State had come principally from the Southern States of Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi, and the news of the bloody tragedies at the Alamo and Goliad, in February and March, 1836, aroused the whole southern country to arms. There were in every county friends of the murdered heroes, and at the time of the battle of San Jacinto of the sudden termination of the invasion of Texas, thousands were en route for the theatre of the war. I have already mention Capt. Peyton S. Wyatt. He was a brother-in-law of B. S. Pope and uncle of Mrs. Frank Martin, and raised a company in Madison county in the spring of 1836 and marched them into Texas. He arrived there much to his chagrin too late for the battle of San Jacinto, but participated in the closing scenes of the war and then came back with many of his command. He married a daughter of Col. Routt, an old citizen of Madison county, and returned to Texas a few years afterwards, where he died a victim of consumption. George D. Spotswood, a brother of Dr. J. C. Spotswood, was a member of his company, a promising young man, who died shortly after his return. The other members of the company that I can remember were Green Hamlet, Jno. C. Grayson, Wm. Wilson, brother of Mrs. Jack Fariss, Jas. V. A. Hinds, the last known survivor of the company, and Peter Daniels their fifer. Jas. V. S. Hinds, for a long time our county surveyor and a man well known to our people, spent several years in Texas. William Wilson, who never married, died about two years ago, and was an old, well-known citizen of the county. Peter Daniels was a freedman of color, a barber, and the most famous fifer of the day. If his history as I have heard it is authentic—and I do not doubt it—he was a hero of the Texas revolution deserving a monument for courage and fidelity. It appears that Peter Daniels' reputation as a musician has spread over into Mexico, and when Wyatt's company disbanded he remained in the Texas service, and in the desultory warfare following the battle of San Jacinto was captured by a band of Mexican troops. They gave him the alternative of immediate death or enlisting in their service as a fifer. He scorned their offer, told them he would die before he would play them a single note, and refusing even when confronted with his executioners he was riddled with bullets. This is a striking illustration of the intense hatred of the Texan soldiery against their Mexican invaders and of the cold-blooded barbarity of the latter, which was

retaliated by the Texans, at and after the victory of San Jacinto. Several of our old citizens lost friends and relatives either at the Alamo or Goliad, and even the school-boys were ready to march to the rescue. Circulars were distributed asking contributions in money and the names of volunteers, and there was doubtless a considerable sum raised for the cause. I have seen one of these old documents in the handwriting of Capt. Joseph Rice, of New Market, dated May 18th, 1836. The battle of San Jacinto had been fought on the 21st day of April, and in those slow-moving days out people probably had not heard full details of its glorious results. The document pledges the parties whose names are subscribed to contribute the amount opposite their names to the support of the cause of Texas if needed, and Joseph Rice, Elkanah Echols, Reuben Shotwell, Thomas Miller, Wm. B. Miller and Parhem N. Barker subscribed twenty dollars each, and many others sums from one dollar to ten, the whole amount pledged being one hundred and eighty-one dollars. The name of Wm. Smith is recorded as a volunteer, but the triumph of the Texans rendered any further material aid unnecessary.

While our county enjoyed profound peace this period, yet there was considerable excitement about Indian troubles in the central portion of the State, and they became so serious that Hon. C. C. Clay, in 1836, as Governor and commander-in-chief of the Alabama militia, ordered out the State Troops and took the field in person in co-operation with General Scott and Jesup. Several companies were organized in Madison county and their services tendered to the governor and they were enrolled, but the troubles were soon ended by the submission of the Indians, and our troops were engaged in no active services.

During the period of which I now write Byrd Brandon was United States Attorney for the northern district of Alabama and actively co-operated with Gov. Clay and General Jesup in organizing the militia of the northern district for a war that seemed inevitable. Col. Brandon was a young brother of Thomas and William Brandon, whose names have so often appeared in this history, and was superior to either of them in native talent. He studied law under Governor Clay, and had hardly attained his majority when admitted to practice, and when he was thirty years of age, had been associated as partner with such men as Judges Taylor, White and Silas Parsons, had been commissioned as aid

of Governor Israel Pickens with rank of lieutenant-colonel, and on General Jackson's accession to the presidency received the appointment of Attorney General, which office he held through General Jackson's administration. The state of his health requiring a change of climate, he was appointed by President Van Buren consul to Campeacy, and died in that country in 1838, at the age of thirty-eight. His career was a short and brilliant one, and by his death Madison county lost one of the most promising of a brilliant array of statesmen that gave us the prestige we enjoyed in our State and national councils. Jno. D. Brandon, of our city, is a son of Col. Byrd Brandon, a worthy son of a distinguished father, who being well known throughout the State as one of the leaders of the bar of North Alabama and being intimately acquainted with the people of our county, requires no eulogy from my pen.

Chapter XV.

Madison County to 1840.

The period in our county's history of which I now write was an uneventful one. Except the rumor of Indian troubles, to which I alluded in the last chapter, in which companies under command of Capt. John W. Otey, Capt. Rob't. W. Peevey, and others not remembered, were enrolled for service, there were no wars nor rumors of war. Our people had gone on in the even tenor of their way and were devoting their energies to the cause of education and internal improvement. Green Academy had, until within a few years of this period, stood without a rival in North Alabama, and was the nursery in which were trained many eminent citizens scattered throughout the State, who were now on the threshold of a brilliant future. On the 15th of January, 1831, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, the Huntsville Female Seminary was duly incorporated, with Arthur F. Hopkins, John M. Taylor, J. J. Pleasants, Wm. Clark, Thomas Fearn, B. S. Pope, James G. Birney, John Martin and Harry I. Thornton trustees, and launching out under the control of such an array of able and distinguished names. it is not strange that its reputation became national. It would be interesting, if possible so to do, to detail the long list of names of talented and cultured women who have been trained within its

precincts during its more than half a century's existence. Throughout the whole Tennessee valley its students are dispersed, the mothers and wives of the older school of divines, lawyers, statesmen and politicians.

While our educational facilities were improving, our works of internal improvement, commenced under favorable auspices, experienced the disasters of the financial crisis covering the decade in our whole country's history from 1836. The causes of these disasters belong to national history, and I shall not attempt to discuss them, interesting as the subject would be. I shall merely note their influence on the local interests of our county, and detail not the cause but the effect upon our county's welfare. One good effect produced by the financial crisis was the abolition of imprisonment for debt in 1836, an old law which, separate and apart from a humanitarian view, would soon have been imperative, as in the course of a year or two the debtors outnumbered the creditors.

The old Planters' and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, the oldest in the State on expiration of its charter, was succeeded by a branch of the State bank, and taxation was so light that when the State tax was abolished in 1836 the expense of the State government being paid of the State bank, it was considered hardly worthy of mention; and when, on account of financial disaster to the banks, the legislature of 1843 levied a State tax—the first in seven years—there was no opposition and very little discussion of the matter.

Roads and turnpikes were considered as important by our fathers as by the present generation, and but for the financial crisis of 1836 our roads of the present day would be on quite a different basis. During this period the Decatur and Tuscumbia railroad, the oldest in the State, was constructed. The works of internal improvement that our fathers contemplated were the following: First, the opening of the Muscle Shoals, in which Madison county, on account of its enormous cotton crop, was most vitally interested. This failed on account of the inadequacy of the proceeds of the swamp lands donated to the purpose and the straight-laced opposition of the Democratic party, then in power, to appropriations for internal improvement, though some of the work on the Muscle Shoals was permanent and excellent in its

character and the money not entirely thrown away. In connection with this was also the incorporation of the Madison Turnpike Company, in 1834, and the building of the turnpike from Huntsville to Whitesburg, which has been of lasting benefit to our people. This work was undertaken and completed when the favorite project of a canal from Huntsville to Triana was abandoned as impracticable, though persisted in by the projectors until the undertaking threatened them with bankruptcy. It was the intention of our people to construct a turnpike from the Tennessee river, and if the enterprise had been undertaken ten years earlier, the project would doubtless have been accomplished.

In the year 1838 the Meridianville and Hazel Green Turnpike Company, under the auspices of Rodah Horton, Valentine Pruitt, Dr. Wyche and other public-spirited citizens of Meridianville and Hazel Green, was incorporated. They were authorized to establish a stock company with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars to construct a turnpike from the terminus of the Whitesburg turnpike at the Green Bottom inn to the Tennessee line. The line of this road lay through a region of wonderful fertility, the greater portion of which had been purchased at the land sales of 1809, and a large portion of the lands had been cleared and was in a high state of cultivation, yielding enormous crops. But while few of the incorporators tided over the financial difficulties of the times many of the citizens along the route were seriously embarrassed by the financial disasters of the period and a large number utterly ruined and the enterprise was abandoned. The financial pressure prevailed so long that the people did not recover sufficiently to renew the undertaking until just before the war, the blighting effect of which laid our industries prostrate, and our people lost the opportunity of carrying out an enterprise that would have been a nucleus to an improved system of roads that would have proved of incalculable benefit to our people.

In opening Tennessee river to navigation it was thought that Flint river, traversing the eastern portion of the county, and Paint Rock, skirting our southeastern portion, could be opened to navigation, and it was conceded that a portion of the two and three per cent fund could be legitimately appropriated to that purpose. A slight appropriation had been made for the improvement of Flint that was of but little benefit to the people. The Flint River Navigation Company, incorporated at an early day, had been able

with a favorable tide to freight cotton to the Tennessee in bateaux or keelboats, but neither they nor the State government made it a navigable stream. Paint Rock being a narrower but deeper stream was considered more available. In the year 1839 the State legislature appropriated ten thousand dollars to the improvement of the navigation of Paint Rock. The counties interested in the work were Madison, Jackson and Marshall. Three commissioners were appointed, to-wit: W. B. Robinson, of Marshall county, Eldred W. Williams, of Jackson, and Dr. Alfred Moore, of Madison, with authority to employ competent persons to examine the river and make estimate of the costs. Then they were to let the work out to contractors, make all payments, receive vouchers and make return of their work to the legislature, embodying a full report of all proceedings under the law. This proved to be an ill-advised and unfortunate expenditure. The commissioners faithfully performed the duties enjoined by the law in having the river examined, estimates and contracts assigned, and scrupulously disbursed the appropriation for the work done; but the great mistake made was in attempting to open the stream for navigation by the expenditure of so small a sum. The river was lined to the water's edge by a luxuriant growth of white oak and other heavy timber, and it was decided to begin the work by clearing the stream of all timber likely to fall into it and obstruct its navigation. The contractors concluded to cut down all such timber into the river, on the theory that the high floods of winter would float it into the Tennessee and clear the river of all obstructions of that character. The work was done in summer when the trees were full of sap and covered with foliage. The river for nearly half a century has sent its annual floods to the broad Tennessee, yet the trunks of the prostrate giants of the forest lie buried in sand and drift in the bed of the river, in many instances not a dozen yards from their first resting place, and as far as we know may lie there buried for ages to come. When winter came the logs refused to float, and so many were there that, unless at high tide, upper Paint Rock became the most unnavigable stream in the State. Nearly all the fords were obstructed and had to be cleared out, the boys dared not take a header into the tempting waters unless by close examination of the theatre of operations they were satisfied there was no danger of flattening out by contact with a hidden log or impalement on a treacherous snag, and seining in these waters was unheard of.

More than all the disappointment and chagrin attending the failure of the enterprise and the wasting of the money was the sickness that followed. The people along and near the river who had hitherto enjoyed average health with other portions of the country were several seasons scourged by miasmatic diseases which they reasonably attributed to the obstruction in the course of the stream and the decay of so much vegetable matter, the lighter portion of which was on account of the obstructions in the current thrown into the sloughs and ponds to generate miasma during the summer months. The lapse of time has improved the stream and restored health to the country, but Paint Rock would now be better adapted to navigation if not a dollar had ever been appropriated to improve it.

During the time of which I treat the old jail was taken off the square and a new one erected on the present site and the present court-house commenced.

Chapter XVI.

Representative Men from 1830 to 1840.

This chapter will be partly retrospective. In past articles I have had frequent inquiries concerning certain of our older public men, which I propose to answer. Men like John Hunt, Leroy Pope, David and Alfred Moore, John W. Linter, Governor Clay and some others who spent their lives among our people do not require any further mention, as their whole history is familiar to our people. But a few of our earlier statesmen died before the memory of the present generation and many at the time or soon after the rapid settlement of the Tennessee valley in 1813 and '19 followed the ride of emigration and became leaders and pioneers in their settlements.

Many of the great statesmen of the South, born and raised in the county, went southward on the settlement of the Creek lands, and at the time of which I write were entering on a brilliant career. Many of the younger men of this latter class still survive, and wherever their lot is cast they are trusted and honored leaders among the southern people.

Dr. Henry Chambers was one of the most distinguished of the early politicians. He was a Virginian by birth and a member of our first constitutional convention. He was a man of ability, of high literary attainments, in easy circumstances and one of the most popular men in North Alabama. He was twice beaten for Governor by Israel Pickens, one of the most popular and influential men of his time, and in the year 1825 was elected to the U. S. Senate over Judge Wm. Kelly, also a Madison county man, but died in Virginia in February, 1826, before taking his seat. His family emigrated to Mississippi, where his sons became prominent, one of them representing the State in Congress. The good old county of Chambers was named in honor of him. James Titus is said to have been the oldest member of the bar in North Alabama, having been admitted to practice long before Madison county was organized. He was a member of the territorial legislature for several terms, and when Alabama was formed into a territory, in 1818, was elected a member of the council, as the upper house was called. It so happened that he was the only member of that august body, was of course president, opened and adjourned and did all the voting, and enjoyed the honor of being the only man who ever held the office of member of the council of Alabama territory.

Judge Wm. Kelly, who came here from Tennessee about the year 1817, was then in the prime of life and had been judge of the circuit court, brought with him a high reputation which he fully sustained. He was elected to Congress in 1821, when the whole State was his district, succeeding John Crowell our first member of Congress. He was soon after elected U. S. Senator and served until succeeded by Dr. Chambers in 1825. He was a member of the legislature of 1827, and soon afterwards removed to New Orleans, where he died about the year 1835.

Wm. J. Adair, nephew of Gov. Adair, of Kentucky, and a distinguished lawyer, came here about the time of the land sales of 1818, served in the legislature in 1823 and '24, was elected circuit judge in 1832, and died in office in 1835. The brothers, Harry I. and James I. Thornton, were raised in Madison county. Harry I. Thornton was district attorney during the term of John Quincy Adams, and was elected judge of the supreme court in 1833. He resided for many years in Green county, which he represented in the State senate, was afterwards appointed to the lucrative office

of land commissioner of California, and died in San Francisco in the year 1862. Jas. I. Thornton read law in Huntsville and was the law partner for a short time of Judge Henry W. Collier, who, after a short residence of two years in Huntsville settled in Tuscaloosa. Jas. I. Thornton removed to Green county, was Secretary of State from 1824 to 1834, and a prominent and influential man in Green county.

Neither must I omit to mention Judge Jno. E. Moore and Col. Sydenham Moore, sons of Dr. Alfred Moore, noble scions of distinguished family. They both read law and were licensed to practice in Huntsville. John E. Moore, the elder brother, removed to Florence and entered on the successful practice of his profession. He represented Lauderdale county in the legislature of 1847, and was elected judge of the fourth district in 1852, and remained in office until the war, and upon the occupation of North Alabama by the federals he removed to Green county, where he died in 1864. Col. Sydenham Moore settled in Eutaw about the year 1833, after Capt. Otey's company of volunteers, of which he was a member, disbanded. He was judge of the county court of Green, served a year in the Mexican war, was appointed judge of the circuit court in 1857, was soon afterwards elected to Congress by a large majority, from which he withdrew on the secession of the State of Alabama, was elected Colonel of the Eleventh Alabama, and was mortally wounded in the battle of Seven Pines. He was a veritable chevalier Bayard, gentle and courteous in behavior, of graceful demeanor and of undaunted courage, a man without fear and without reproach.

Judge Richard Ellis, of Franklin, was an old resident of Madison county, coming here at an early date, was delegate to the constitutional convention from Franklin in 1819, was first circuit judge of the fourth circuit, serving from 1819 to 1825, was a prominent actor in the Texas revolution and president of the convention that declared its independence. He was related by marriage to the Garths, then of Morgan county.

John D. Phelan, one of Alabama's distinguished jurists and the father of Major Ellis Phelan, our present Secretary of State, was born in New Jersey but raised in Madison. He was for a time editor of the Democrat, and in 1836 was elected State's attorney. He represented Madison county in the legislature in 1834

and '35 and Tuscaloosa county in 1839 and was speaker of the house. He was circuit judge of that district from the year 1841 to 1852, when he was elected judge of the supreme court and was clerk of the supreme court until the war, and after the war was professor of the law in Sewanee University. His brother, James Phelan, was born in Madison county, learned the printer's trade under Philip Woodson, was State printer in the year 1841, afterwards removed to Aberdeen, Mississippi, and was Confederate States Senator from 1862 to the close of the war. Jas. Phelan was an able journalist and as an orator had few if any superiors in the south. He married a daughter of Dr. Alfred Moore.

John McKinley came to Huntsville in 1818. At that time he was about forty years of age and a distinguished lawyer. In 1826 he was elected to the U. S. Senate, and about that time settled in Lauderdale county, and was again elected in 1836, but before taking his seat he was appointed associate justice of the supreme court, which office he held until his death in 1852. The old war horse of Democracy, David Hubbard, of Lawrence, settled in Huntsville about the time he attained his majority 1814 or '15, working here as a carpenter. Young as he was he had served in the year of 1812 and was wounded at the battle of New Orleans. He read law here and about the year 1819 or '20 opened a law office at Moulton. He was a man of strong common sense, a shrewd politician and popular with the masses. During a public life of over forty years, he was solicitor, member of the legislature either in the senate or lower house for several terms, was member of congress in 1839 and 1849, but was thrice defeated by General Geo. S. Houston who was invincible in his district. Maj. Hubbard lived many years after the war, and I believe died at an advanced age in Tennessee, his native State. Wm. L. and Dr. David Hubbard McLain, two worthy citizens of our county, are his lineal descendants.

Madison county has furnished so many eminent men who became prominent throughout the south that it is impossible to enumerate them. Among them were Dr. J. P. Coman and Luke Pryor, of Athens, Gov. A. E. O'Neal, of Colbert, Gov. John J. Pettus, of Mississippi, Gen. Jones M. Withers, Judge A. R. Manning and Dr. Claude Mastin and Hon. Percy Walker, of Mobile, Wm. B. Modawell, of Perry, and A. J. Hamilton and Morgan Hamilton and chief justice Wm. Moore, of Texas. Many of them,

at the time of which I write, were in the prime of life and at the Meridian of fame, while others, many of whom are still living, were just entering on a successful and honorable career and belong to a later era.

Gov. Reuben Chapman, one of the most noted men of his time, when an old citizen of Morgan county, coming to Madison about the year 1850, when he retired to private life and was a citizen of this county until his death in 1882. He was a native of Virginia. He came to Huntsville in the year 1824, read law with his brother, Judge Samuel Chapman, and was admitted to practice in Huntsville, but about the year 1825 removed to Somerville. In 1832 he was elected State Senator from Morgan county, and remained in office until 1835, when he was elected to congress, defeating Robert T. Scott, of Jackson, and William H. Glascock, of Madison. In 1837 he was elected over ex-Gov. Gabriel Moore by a large majority, after which he was reelected four successive terms with but little opposition. In the year 1845 Joshua W. Martin, an independent candidate, had defeated Col. Nat. Terry, the regular nominee of the Democratic party, for Governor by near six thousand majority. This was owing to divisions in the party on local questions, and the Whigs were very hopeful of electing Col. Nich. Davis in 1847 and obtaining control of the State. The Democratic convention, in 1847 nominated Gov. Chapman without any solicitation or effort on his part, and he was elected by a handsome majority, and his wise, prudent and economical administration relieved the State from its embarrassing financial position and restored confidence in and gave permanent control of the State to his party. But the Democrats who had voted for Joshua L. Martin resented his exclusion from a second term and united with the supporters of Hon. Henry W. Collier in opposition to Gov. Chapman's renomination. In this crisis Gov. Chapman set an example that later politicians could well imitate. A majority of the convention were favorable to him, but under the two-third's rule, though his success was quite probable, yet there was danger to the party in a heated contest for the nomination, and Gov. Chapman, for the sake of harmony, voluntarily retired from the contest and gave his influence and support to his distinguished successor. Gov. Chapman, at the earnest solicitation of our people, became a member of the legislature in 1855, but served only a single term and filled no public position since that date, except

presidential elector in 1860. Gov. Chapman was largely gifted with practical sense, eminent tact and farseeing political sagacity, and as an active, vigilant and resolute public officer had but few equals and no superior. He did not shine as an orator, possessing but little personal magnetism, boasted of none of the arts of the demagogue, and his deportment rather repelled than invited undue familiarity. Yet with all these serious obstacles to popularity his endowments were of a character to give him a strong and lasting influence with the people. His financial ability was of the highest order and gave him a prominent place on the congressional committees. His mind was a store-house of useful knowledge and his fine colloquial powers enabled him to give his sound practical convictions on the issues of the day in an intelligible and impressive manner that edified and enlightened his hearers and gave him an enviable reputation for honesty, sincerity and sagacity. In his old age he was the Nestor of our younger politicians, a wise and disinterested counsellor, eminently liberal and conservative and deeply solicitous of the welfare of his adopted State.

During this decade the most distinguished Emigrant to our county was Judge Wm. Smith, who came here about the year 1834. He had already been supreme judge and U. S. State senator in South Carolina and the political antagonist of John C. Calhoun, and left South Carolina on account of his disapproval of the nullification tendencies of his people. When he came here he had passed his seventieth year and had already made a national reputation. He served in our State legislature from 1836 to just before his death in 1840, when he left an immense estate, and his descendants of the fourth generation still own considerable property in Huntsville and vicinity.

Chapter XVII.

Huntsville, 1830 to 1840.

I have brought up the history of the whole county to the year 1840, but I have not for a considerable period of time alluded to the city of Huntsville. I heretofore endeavor to picture the appearance of the city in the days when, by the building of the store-houses of the old merchants, the public square, with the old brick courthouse on an eminence in its centre, began to take form

and shape, and the substantial brick residences south of Williams street formed an elegant suburb rather than a part of the city. In the year 1830, with the exception of the comfortable brick tenements embowered in native forests, scattered around the city and generally environed by fertile fields in a high state of tillage, the town was compactly clustered round the three sides of the square east of the spring. The water-works, commenced by Hunter Peel and James Barclay in 1823 were in successful operation, and the old breast-wheel in its ceaseless round was furnishing the city with an ample supply of pure water. The greater portion of the city was included in the old corporation between Lincoln, Williams, Gallatin and Holmes streets and much of the city beyond these limits was then in cultivation, with old-fashioned worm fences reaching the streets on either side. Old Green Academy stood nearly isolated and embowered in a grove of primitive forest trees with open fields on the north, west and south. From the junction of Green and Holmes streets Levin Sheperd, Major Fleming, John Neely, Jere Murphy and some others had built north of Holmes street, with no settlements south. The residence and the lots, negro quarters and outbuildings of Thomas and William Brandon were located near the junction of Jefferson and Holmes, and there was a burial ground a little north of this point, through which Jefferson street now extends, and it is probably that beneath this busy thoroughfare are the last resting places of some of the forgotten dead of the early city.

Martin Miller lived in a substantial log house on the site of Mr. Weil's present residence, and at the foot of the hill the old tan-yard was in successful operation, and through its open gates there was a constant throng carrying in hides and returning loaded with the leather, that was distributed throughout the farms in the county and made into shoes by itinerant cobblers who traversed the county with their kit of tools and made up the shoes for the farmers. On a large number of these plantations they made shoes both for black and white, and there was but little difference in the style and finish of the work, except that the farmers laid in the leather for negro shoes of the russet shade, as it came from the tannery, and bought a side or two of finished black leather for the family supply.

The road to Whitesburg was much traveled, and in the winter season became almost impracticable (sic) and outside of the old

city limits there was not a hundred feet of McAdamized road in the whole county.

The population of the city in 1830 was about two thousand, and the Methodists, Presbyterians and Primitive Baptists had erected houses of worship and were supported by large and liberal congregation. From the year 1830 to 1840, though embracing a period of great financial distress, yet was included a period of great improvement in the city and vicinity. The corporation extended one quarter of a mile from the court-house to each side of the 160 acres of land in its bounds, from which was excepted the negro quarters of Thomas and Willam Brandon on Holmes street, then called the western road. The old jail was built on the present jail lot in the year 1832, and the market house on the public square had been taken away and the market place removed to the Holding Block. The old brick court-house on the public square had become dilapidated and insecure, and after discussing ways and means for several years the commissioners finally let out the contract for the building of a new one. George Steele, a fine mechanic and a scientific architect, planned the building and drew up its specifications. Geo. Steele had come here from Virginia young and poor, but by his energy and mechanical skill contributed largely to the development of architectural taste among our people and soon made a wide reputation and acquired wealth. He married a daughter of Col. Matthew Weaver and raised a large family, among whom were the accomplished wife of the lamented General E. D. Tracy, Matthew W. Steele the well-known architect, and Col. Jno. F. Steele, a celebrated civil engineer. But one of the men who constructed the court-house from corner-stone to minaret still lives in our midst, one of the last survivors of the celebrated mechanics of that era, whose finished and skillful workmanship gave both elegance and stability to our public and private edifices. Our fellow-citizen William Wilson and James Mitchell were awarded the entire contract, and broke ground for the new building in the month of July, 1836, and the first court held in the new court-house in the fall of 1838. The excellent blue limestone of the foundation was quarried on Russell Hill. The white limestone of the steps into the hall and of the upper stone work was quarried on the spurs of Monte Sano, and the paving material from "Round Top." Messers. Wilson and Mitchell's contract included grading the site of the new court-house and removing the old one, and the

workmen, in grading the square and digging the foundation, excavated a considerable quantity of loose flat rocks, which they used in covering fissures in the rocks of unknown depths across which the foundation walls were carried. To look upon the level green sward of the public square and the substantial basement of the court-house would make it difficult to realize that underneath are yawning caverns reaching down to the hidden waters of Huntsville Spring, with arches cleft by fissures extending up to the foundation walls of the court-house. Yet so sure and solid was the foundation laid that there was not on its completion nor has there since ever been any perceptible change or difference in level, except a slight depression of its north-east corner. The bricks for the court-house were made by Messrs. Wilson and Mitchell on the lots now occupied by George M. Neely and Fred. A. Howe, which were afterwards graded to the street level and sold for building lots. The court-house cost about fifty-two thousand dollars, and when finished it was considered one of the finest edifices of the kind in the Southern States. Messers Wilson and Mitchell quarried the stone in the mountains, made the brick, superintended hauling and transportation of all the material, and also directed and managed the inside work and plastering, and when they delivered the keys of the completed building to the county authorities they left to future generations a lasting testimony of their skill and fidelity as master builders.

While the court-house was in progress of construction George Steel was building the bank edifice, now occupied by the National Bank, which is another monument to the skill and fidelity of the builders of that time.

Bartley M. Lowe, at that time in the meridian of his prosperity, contributed greatly to the improvement of the city by erecting store-houses near the court-house square. Andrew Beirne erected the present Post Office building. Robert J. Manning built the present Bell Factore store and also the costly residence north of the Holmes street afterwards occupied by Dr. David Moore, and Judge Wm. Smith built the substantial and costly establishment covering what is now known as the "Calhoun block" or United States court-house.

Although the banks had suspended and a large proportion of its paper currency was worthless and nearly all at a heavy discount, yet the town was steadily improving, and the period from

1830 to 1840 was remarkable not only for the erection of our public buildings and many private residences that have contributed to the reputation of the city, but also for a vast amount of work in extending and grading the streets and improving the drainage. The completion of the Whitesburg turnpike was of great benefit to the people of the city and entire county in facilitating the transportation of our large cotton crop to the Tennessee river.

I have now brought this history down to the year 1840. Here I propose to conclude my work for the present. Should time and opportunity be afforded to resume the subject in the future I will write of men who still survive or live in the memory of the older citizens now living. Since entering on this work I have obtained much valuable information from our old citizens, both verbally and by reference to many interesting papers they have kindly placed at my disposal, and should I ever revise my work by the information so obtained I will be able to correct some errors in former articles and also to add materially to the subject matter. While from county records and other resources I have been able to give short biographical sketches of public men who were prominent in their several vocations, I have been able to glean but little of the history of our periodicals and journalists or of our pioneer churches and ministers who came here with our ancestors and built up our religious denominations as the country progressed. The abundance of the material available for the chronicler of events from 1850 to the present time and the necessity of careful and judicious selection demands more time and attention than I can, at the present time, bestow. Should it be my good fortune to collate and properly arrange material for the continuation of these articles to later times, I will then undertake the task of completing the history of the county to the present time.

THE END.

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